

Behind the scene

The Mask Club, a laboratory program designed to help students get experience producing and directing plays, is performing once again.

Page 5



Fixing up

Nine BYU nursing students treat patients in Guatemala as a part of a medical trip sponsored by Hirsch Smiles Foundation.

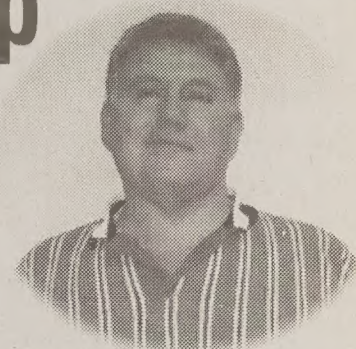
Page 3



Stepping up

Lance Reynolds is named as the replacement for offensive coordinator Norm Chow.

Page 6



The Daily Universe

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BYU HAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

PROVO, UTAH

VOL. 53 ISSUE 92

Resolution says education top priority

TIFFANY GEE

tee@newsroom.byu.edu

NewsNet Staff Writer

the No. 1 priority for Utah, Utah Partners for Education at a meeting in the Utah State Capitol.

presented a resolution on education, business, education and government working to strengthen education and research.

of this is raising the capital. "It gives to quality jobs. We will support our legislature in this millennium we do up here," said Sen. Scott.

Howell, D-Salt Lake.

Legislators and board members of the UPE spoke about the involvement of businesses in the education process.

"It's not just education pressing education. Business is up here too. You cannot separate education from the business community," said Rep. Lloyd Frandsen, R-South Jordan.

The major challenge that faces 90 percent of the businesses in Utah's future is finding a qualified work force, said Val Finlayson, the executive director of UPE.

"The employers have said they want to train a work force in a partnership with education," Finlayson said.

A recent study done by the United States

Department of Labor revealed that in 1980, 80 percent of the work force could get by with a high school education. Now only 15 percent of the work force can survive with just a high school education, Finlayson said.

"We are valued because of what we know and understand. We see education as a necessity for achieving our state's economic means," said Clyde Heiner, chair of UPE.

Frandsen said education in Utah is not necessarily bad; the technological world is just moving too fast.

"It's hard for education to keep up. We need the mechanisms to help education stay current," Frandsen said.

The ideal outcome is for citizens to be educated

to the current level of technology, Frandsen said.

The news conference did not include specifics about what the businesses or the legislature are planning on doing to improve education, but Sen. D. Edgar Allen, D-Davis, said they are working on tactics to make the strategy work, pointing out that the community needs to get involved.

"Just as this resolution sets forth a strategic plan, it's up to those who work in corporate America to implement it," Allen said.

Howell said education does not stop when students leave formalized education. He said the average person will make seven different career changes in their life.

Youth coach gets 15-year prison term for sodomy

Associated Press

PROVO, Utah — A former youth sports coach who admitted to sexually abusing boys was sentenced Wednesday to at least 15 years in prison.

Danny P. Pitcher, 46, of Provo, pleaded guilty in December to two counts of sodomy of a child, a first-degree felony.

Pitcher committed sex acts on a 13-year-old boy in Pitcher's home, prosecutors said.

Pitcher asked 4th District Judge Ray M. Harding Sr. for leniency because he had no previous criminal convictions.

Pitcher's attorney also said the boy and other victims "did voluntarily participate" in sex acts with Pitcher.

But prosecutor Matt Jube objected to defense attorney Shannon Dem-

ler's characterization of the abuse.

"I don't think it's fair to say these acts were voluntary, given the victims' age and the position of trust," Pitcher was in, Jube said.

Pitcher may not have prior convictions for sex abuse, but the abuse happened over several years with several victims, Jube said.

Victims abused by Pitcher years ago have been "coming out of the woodwork" since charges were filed, Jube said.

Pitcher coached youth football and baseball in Utah County.

"For a coach to inflict this kind of abuse on young men who trusted him is particularly insidious," Jube said.

The judge ordered Pitcher to serve two concurrent prison sentences, imposing the harshest penalty possible when he gave Pitcher the minimum-mandatory of 15 years to life. The judge could have chosen a minimum of six or 10 years.

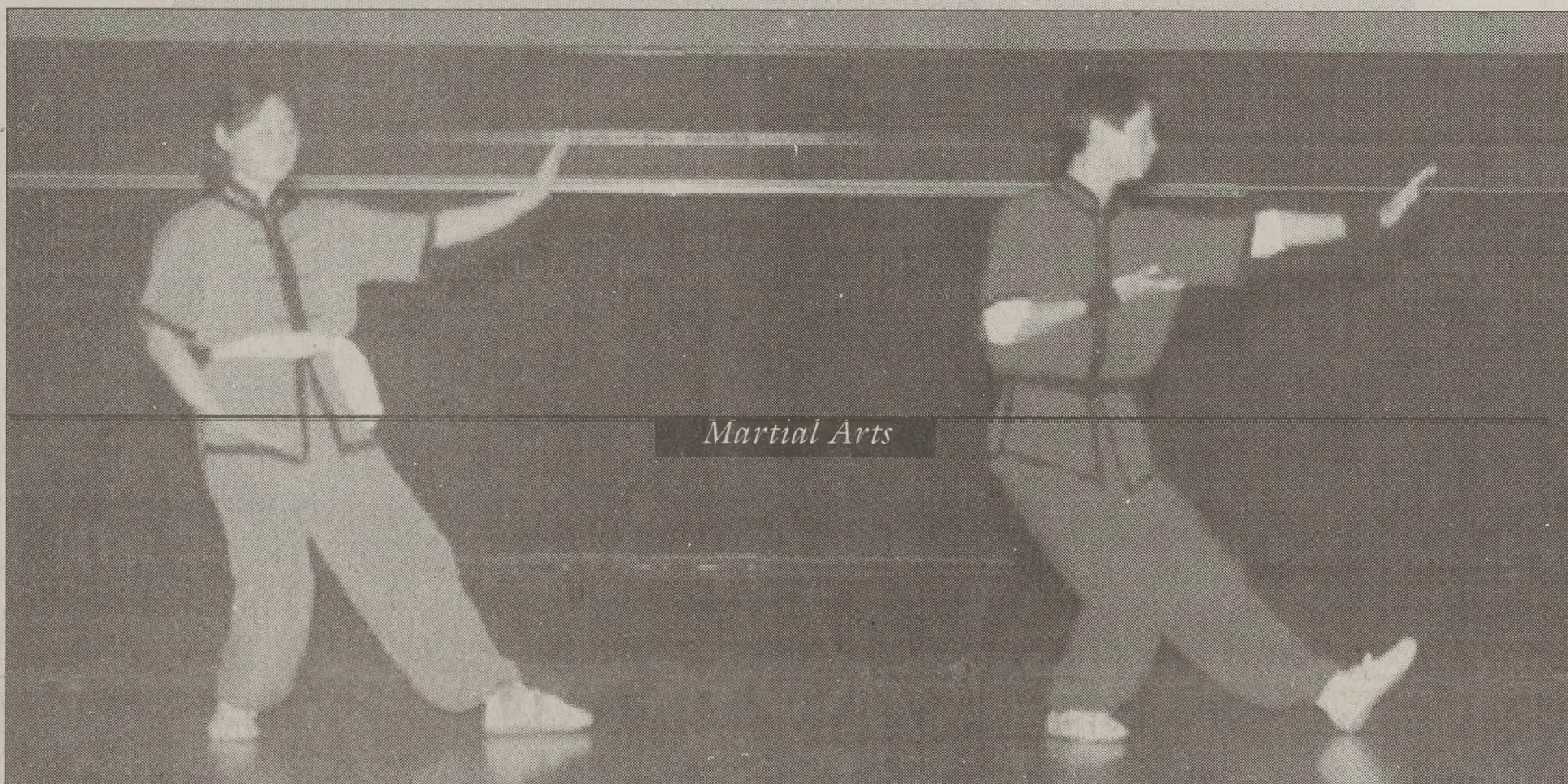
"The court was shocked to read the extent of involvement of the defendant with young men who were placed in his care," Harding said.

Pitcher was ordered to report for incarceration by Friday.

He cried when addressing the judge.

"What I did was wrong," Pitcher said.

"I feel sorry for the victims and their families."



Martial Arts

Stacy Young/Daily Universe

Two students from the Chinese Jingshan Martial Arts School demonstrate their kung fu techniques Tuesday night. The students attend this school in place of regular school, and they practice six hours a day.

Chinese group performs kung fu

By BEVERLY BEAL

beaverly@newsroom.byu.edu

NewsNet Staff Writer

About 2000 years ago, the original practitioners of kung fu, the Shaolin monks, used their specialized moves as a form of self defense against animals in the wilderness.

Carrying on the practice of kung fu, students from the Jingshan Martial Arts School in Hubei, China, train, perform and compete around the world, said Wu Xuezhong, 15, a student of the martial arts school.

On Tuesday in the WSC ballroom, the students from Jingshan performed 20 different styles of martial arts, including tai chi and Shaolin kung fu.

"The performance group was supposed to be here in Provo last semester, but they had visa problems, so they arrived in the states about two weeks ago," said Reuben Chen, 21, a sophomore from Los Angeles, Calif., majoring in neuroscience.

Chen also handles public relations for the tai kwon do club at BYU.

"The group has traveled from New York City, Los Angeles, Provo, Ogden and back to Provo," said Danny Dong, president and producer of Student Association Cultural Performances Exchange Company and sponsor

of the tour.

BYU was the last stop on its American tour, and the group will be leaving Saturday to go back to China, he said.

During the performance, the students demonstrated styles such as dragon style, tiger and the lion dance. They performed with weapons including swords, spears and sticks.

Kung fu is a specialty performance and children attend this martial arts school instead of going to a regular school, Chen said.

"Chinese kung fu does not have a belt system. You are either the principal or student," he said.

The martial arts training requires dedication and many hours of practice, said Xu Bo, the founder and principal of Jingshan Martial Arts School.

The students practice six hours a day. They practice from 5:30 to 7:30 a.m., then from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., he said.

The students attending the school usually train until they reach the age of 30, Wu said.

"I am training here because my parents made me go, but now I like it a lot," he said.

Members of this particular performing group are between the ages of 16 and 18. Most of them started training when they were 10, Xu said.



Stacy Young/Daily Universe

A student from the Jingshan Martial Arts School in Hubei, China, demonstrates kung fu Tuesday night in the Wilkinson Student Center. The group performs and competes around the world.

Baptist crusade to target 'cult' LDS beliefs

By JOE HOLLENBAUGH

hollenbaugh@newsroom.byu.edu

NewsNet Staff Writer

The declared mission of Southern Baptists is to bring all people to Christ. Now some Southern Baptist congregations are planning crusades aimed at evangelizing members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Feb. 6-8, the Calvary Baptist Church and the Oak Lawn Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, N.C., will host a "Cult Awareness Crusade." One evening is dedicated to a presentation on "Mormonism," which the organizers of the crusade call, "the largest and fastest growing cult in America."

The three-night crusade, which will take place at the two churches, devotes a full evening to a presentation on LDS doctrinal topics such as eternal progression and pre-mortal existence. These doctrines are compared and contrasted with other biblical teachings.

Other discussion topics will include the Jehovah's Witnesses and "new age" religious philosophies. Between

2,000-3,000 people normally attend, said James Walker, the presenter of the crusade.

The Southern Baptists have come under heavy criticism recently for their positions on Jews, Muslims and Hindus, and on social issues like women's rights and homosexuality.

At their 1998 convention in Salt Lake City, the Southern Baptists issued a statement that women should "submit themselves graciously" to their husbands.

In 1997, they organized a boycott of Disney, accusing Disney products of condoning homosexuality.

Now they are embarking on a new crusade. This year, Southern Baptist churches throughout the South will host Cult Awareness Crusades conducted by Watchman Fellowship, Inc. WFI president James Walker said he was raised a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. According to his biography on the WFI Web site, he left the LDS Church at age 21.

WFI publishes a list of religions and "cults," on its Web site, among which are Jews, Hindus, Muslims, Baha'is,

Buddhists, Freemasons, "liberal" Christians, feminists and "Mormons."

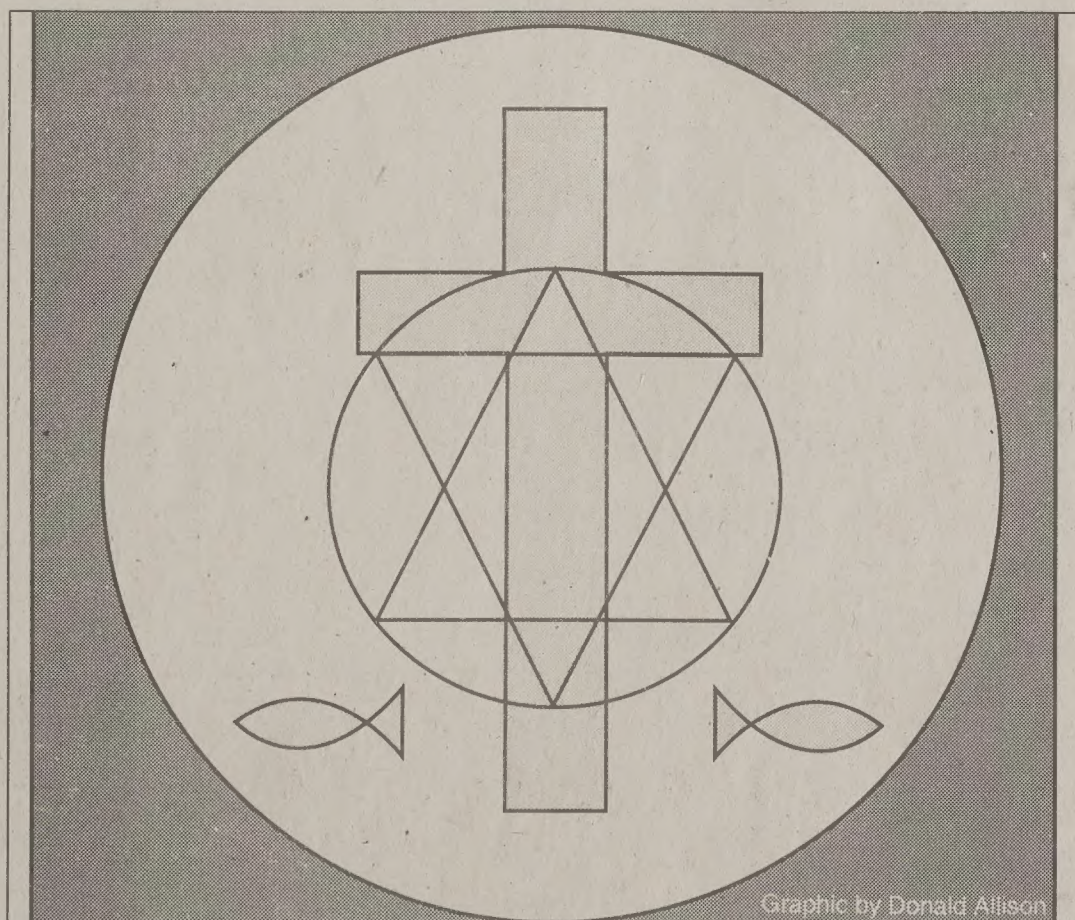
The use of the term "cult" specifically refers to religious movements that use sources of authority other than the Bible, Walker said.

"The word 'cult' is close in meaning to the word 'sect.' Since Jonestown the word 'cult' has taken on a different meaning," Walker said. "We are careful to explain the difference."

The Rev. Rhett Durfee, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Provo, grew up a member of the LDS Church in southern Utah. He said the purpose of these crusades is education. "The goal is to explain the differences in crucial doctrines."

The issues center on specific beliefs, Durfee said. Southern Baptists believe the Bible is the complete and infallible word of God. He said this belief is the basis of orthodox doctrine.

The definition of a cult is any "unorthodox system of belief," Durfee said. However, he prefers to avoid the term "cult" because "it is often



The Star of David symbolizes Judaism, while the cross and the fish represent "liberal" Christianity and the circle is a symbol of unity in Eastern religions. These religions along with the LDS faith are the target of the new Southern Baptist crusade.

News Briefs

Compiled from staff and news service reports

Officials call off search for survivors

PORT HUENEME, Calif. — Authorities abandoned the search for survivors Wednesday of a downed Alaska Airlines jetliner as investigators sought clues from taped talks between a Seattle maintenance crew and pilots struggling to keep control of the plane.

Dozens of boats will remain on the water to search for wreckage that may shed light on the cause of Monday's crash. The plane was en route to San Francisco when it went down with 88 people on board.

"We have far exceeded our estimate of survivability," Coast Guard Adm. Thomas Collins said. "We have tried to give every chance for success in finding survivors. I think we have reached that point."

Friends and relatives of the victims had kept an anguished vigil earlier today as Coast Guard and Navy boats bobbed across the choppy and chilly Pacific.

Nichols faces 160 counts of murder

OKLAHOMA CITY — A judge officially informed bombing co-conspirator Terry Nichols on Wednesday of the 160 state counts of first-degree murder he faces in the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

Nichols, 44, made his initial court appearance following his return to the state on Monday from a federal prison in Colorado. He waived the reading of the charges.

Associate District Judge Robert M. Murphy Jr. set a series of hearings on a variety of motions, starting with a Feb. 11 hearing on requests by both sides for a gag order.

Nichols was sentenced after a federal trial in Colorado to life in prison for conspiracy and eight counts of involuntary manslaughter in the April 19, 1995, bombing of the federal building.

Oklahoma County District Attorney Bob Macy is attempting to get the death penalty for the 160 charges of first-degree murder, representing the bombing victims not included in the federal trial.

Federal Reserve raises interest rates

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve raised a key interest rate Wednesday by a quarter-point — the fourth increase since June — in an effort to slow the red-hot economy and keep inflation from becoming a problem.

The announcement came after a closed-door meeting of the Federal Reserve Open Market Committee, the agency that sets interest rate policies.

The Fed said it was increasing its target for the federal funds rate — the interest that banks charge each other on overnight loan — to 5.75 percent from 5.50 percent.

It also raised its mostly symbolic discount rate, the interest that the Fed charges to make direct loans to banks, by a quarter point to 5.25 percent from 5 percent.

In a statement explaining its decision, the Fed said it continued to be worried that the rapidly growing economy "could foster inflationary imbalances that would undermine the economy's record economic expansion." The Fed's decision marked the fourth time since June that the central bank has raised the rate.

Punxsutawney Phil sees shadow

PUNXSUTAWNEY, Pa. — With bitter cold and fresh snowfall as confirmation, part-time weatherman and full-time groundhog Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow Wednesday morning and predicted six more weeks of winter.

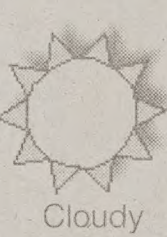
Spectators jumped and danced to keep warm in the 15-degree air as the groundhog's handlers reported the forecast.

The bitter cold may have deterred spectators who lacked Phil's lush fur. "My toes are frostbitten, but it warms up if you start dancing," said Dan Pelam of Emporium, Pa., who was making his first visit to Phil's lair.

The Groundhog Day tradition is rooted in a German superstition that if an animal casts a shadow on Feb. 2 — the Christian holiday of Candlemas — bad weather is coming.

In the 111 years since German farmers began the festival in Punxsutawney, the morning of Feb. 2 has evolved into an elaborate phenomenon.

Weather

Yesterday		Today		Thursday	
High	58	 Cloudy	 Showers	High	64
Low	48			as of 5 p.m.	Low
Precipitation					
Yesterday	None			High	65
Month to date	Trace			Low	42
Year to date	2.67"				

sources: BYU Geography Dept., CNN

The Daily Universe

Offices
5538 WSC
Brigham Young University
Provo, Utah 84602

News
(801)378-2957
Advertising
(801)378-4591

Fax (801) 378-2959 http://newsnet.byu.edu e-mail: letters@byu.edu

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N.J. newspaper reports fire was set

Associated Press

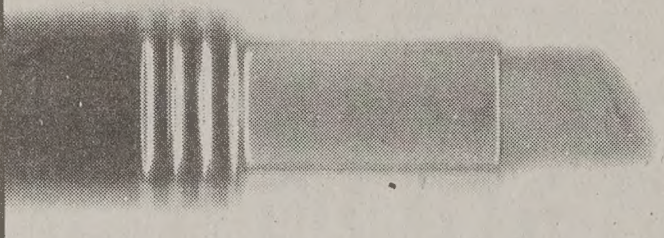
NEWARK, N.J. — Investigators of the deadly fire at a Seton Hall University dormitory believe the blaze was set, The Star-Ledger of Newark reported Wednesday.

Authorities have identified at least four suspects in the Jan. 19 fire that killed three freshmen, the newspaper reported, citing unnamed law enforcement sources. No charges have been filed.

The newspaper said investigators believe the incident may have resulted from a feud between a group of students and some non-students who were visiting the building on the night of the blaze. Investigators said they believe one of the three non-student suspects who had been asked to leave Roland Hall by a resident adviser less than an hour before the fire broke out remained in the building.

wednesday

ladies night

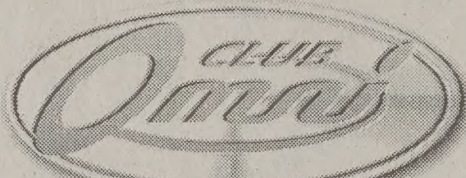


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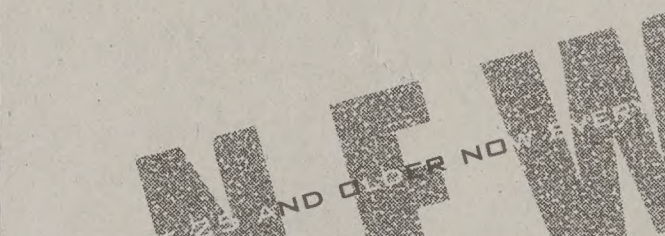
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saturday

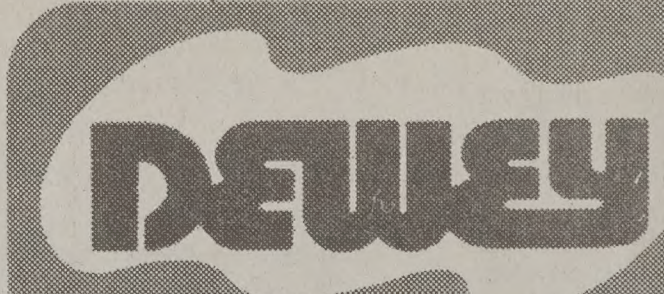
adult 25 and older



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Scripture of the Day

"For what doth it profit a man if a gift is bestowed upon him, and he receive not the gift? Behold, he rejoices not in that which is given unto him, neither rejoices in him who is the giver of the gift."

— Doctrine and Covenants 88:33

Jennie Anderson said she likes this scripture because, "We need to be grateful for the gifts Heavenly Father gives us." Anderson, 21, is a junior from Springville majoring in business management.

Nurses gain foreign experience

Interview workshop offered

NewsNet Services

Students looking to land that perfect internship this summer are invited to attend an interviewing workshop, hosted by BYU's Institute of Marketing on Thursday.

Dirk Cotterell, president and CEO of Management Recruiters in Salt Lake City, will facilitate the workshop.

According to Bill Price, director of the Institute of Marketing, Management Recruiters is the largest search and recruiting firm in Utah.

Cotterell will address the do's and

don'ts of job interviewing. He will also instruct students on the best ways to prepare for job interviews and how to best distinguish themselves from other candidates in order to be remembered.

The workshop will be Thursday in 260 TNRB at 11:00 a.m. All students are invited to attend Cotterell's presentation.

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BYU nursing students help perform and operation in a charity hospital in Chiquimula, Guatemala.

Nine nursing students spent 11 days helping to perform procedures on 45 needy Guatemalans.

right in their backyard, Mangum said. However, the families sell the fruit to buy tortillas and beans before they think to eat it, she said.

The students said lack of supplies made general cleanliness difficult to enforce.

Carla Amor, 34, a senior from Wendell, N.C., majoring in nursing, said the hospital itself had rags for washing and a single towel made from a sheet to dry the children.

The BYU students said they agreed surgeries were successful and the hospital was surprisingly sterile despite the situation.

Kristin Larsen, 22, a senior from

Sandy majoring in nursing, said the Spirit was strong and played a big part in the success of the surgeries.

Students had a devotional every morning and evening, Larsen said.

The students came with Dr. Blayne Hirsche, a reconstructive surgeon from Provo.

Before each surgery, she said Dr. Hirsche would pray for the child by name.

Hirsche is the main surgeon and the founder of the charity hospital in Guatemala.

Liberty Lovingier, 20, a senior from Murrieta, Calif., said one of the best things about the trip was

learning to work together and learning to love the ones she worked with.

Mangum said the students learned more in Guatemala than they would in a classroom at BYU.

It was a good learning ground because of the people they met and the work they got to do, she said.

"By the end of the week, they were running the operating room. I could have gone on vacation," she said.

Larsen said the trip was a life-changing experience.

"I look at these people and they are so precious — they are children of God," Larsen said.

I hosts fraud-prevention seminar

KAREN GUTKE
@newsroom.byu.edu
usNet Staff Writer

lar crime is increasing, representative from the FBI's at a two-hour prevention Utah County business Wednesday.

pends a large amount of year to investigate billion-dollar fraud schemes affecting investors, banks, credit other financial institu-

on, senior resident agent is Provo office, said student be wary about frauds wherever they work.

id a telemarketing com-Lake City hired returned as salesmen. When the frauds found to be fraudulent, w others were charged with one of them served two He said it is possible that working as salesmen for the could also receive legal s.

background check on the might be working for," "These operations tend to be criminalized. With the 'broiler room,' they know what is going on in of the company.

ork for a solicitor that is he said.

Prime bank investment fraud was also discussed at Wednesday's seminar. Prime bank investment fraud is when a con artist has access to secret trading software sanctioned by the Federal Reserve Bank and International Chamber of Commerce.

FBI officers said these con artists deceive victims, telling them they can buy bank securities at a discount and then sell them for profit.

The con artists tell victims there are only five to seven traders authorized to resell these bank securities between the top 25 to 50 world banks. They also say that by conducting these trades several times a year, they are able to produce exceptional returns ranging from six percent to 100 percent a month.

The FBI said the purpose of these frauds is to encourage the victim to send money to a foreign bank, usually in the Bahamas, the Cayman Islands or the Isle of Man. The money is then transferred to an offshore account controlled by the impostors.

Many con artists use counterfeit legal documents to convince their victims that the bonds were established in 1944, just after the end of World War II.

There are even victims of these frauds at BYU.

"Some professors at BYU have gotten into some of these investment scams," said Jim Malpede, special agent at the FBI's Provo office. "They

pass it on to other faculty and it grows."

David Wayment, senior legal counselor at the Utah division of securities, said an elderly couple gave their life-savings of \$300,000 to one of these companies, whose representatives said the company could double their money. The representative met them at the parking lot of a retail store at midnight to make the transaction. The con artist did not even have his own car.

Wayment said some of the lulling tactics used by con artists include saying their company is a secret program sponsored by the government and that the government does not want too many people to know about it. The con artists push people's greed buttons, Wayment said.

"They try to tell you that, because you are so smart or because you are one of 'us,' you should get in on this

deal," Wayment said.

Sometimes the con artists tell their investors not to pay their taxes.

"The IRS does not forgive you for being an idiot and giving your tax money to a con artist. They still want it," Wayment said.

"These lulling tactics are very convincing but should be avoided at all costs. Time is your enemy. The longer you wait to pull your money out or to report it to authorities, the better chance your money won't be there," he said.

Doug Whitney, chief investigator for the FBI's Provo branch, said the best way to fight these crimes is to report them.

Telemarketing fraud affects BYU because many students work part-time for telemarketing companies. Fraud takes place when a telemarketing company disguises its intentions and tricks customers into donating money.

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1400	\$12,250	\$204.16
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1800	\$26,300	\$263.00
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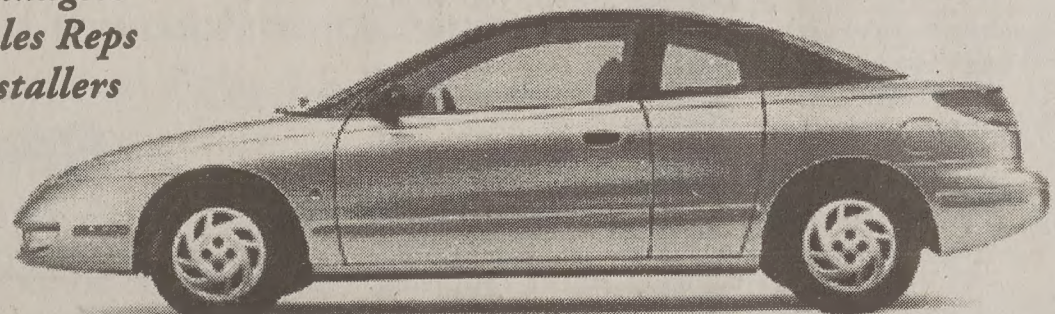
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The Daily Universe

OPINION

Ethics in medicine

"I solemnly pledge to consecrate my life to the service of humanity. I will practice medicine with conscience and dignity. The health and life of my patient will be my first consideration."

Many physicians giving up on providing traditional health care in order to provide lucrative cosmetic procedures for their patients are blatantly ignoring these lines from the Oath of Hippocrates, a vow of ethical behavior taken by most physicians.

Recently, The New York Times reported that several doctors, especially in urban areas, have stopped performing routine, life-saving procedures in order to perform elective procedures such as laser eye surgery and wrinkle removal. These cosmetic procedures are not paid for by insurance companies, so the patient must pay the doctor up-front — bypassing paperwork, rejected bills and insurance claim filing. The cost for these procedures can be in the thousands of dollars, and the doctor gets this money immediately.

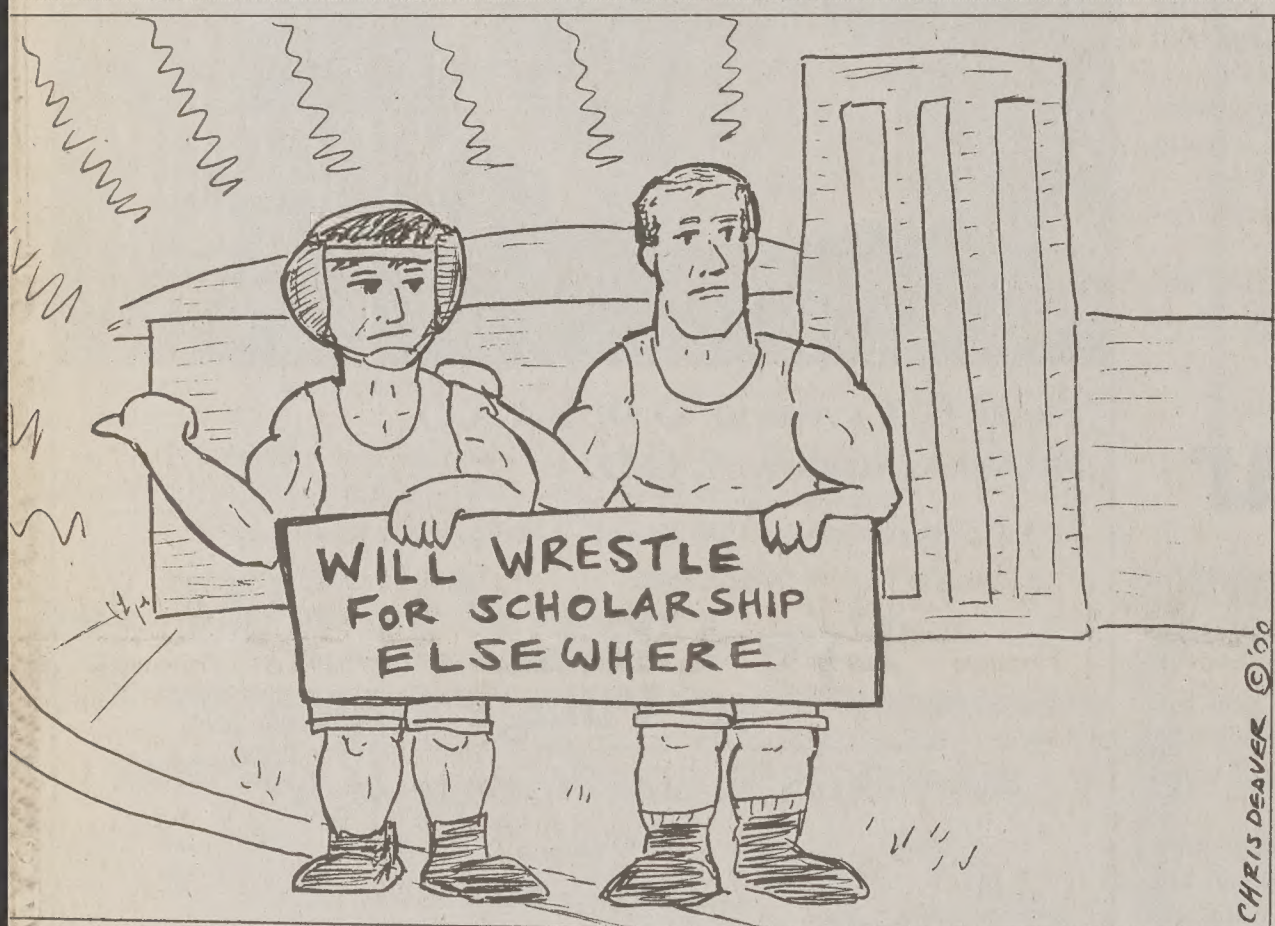
Physicians justify this practice by pointing to decreasing insurance reimbursements for routine skin cancer checks, cataract surgeries and acne treatment. Doctors quoted in The New York Times article said that without elective procedures, their practices would not be lucrative. The danger, however, in this growing trend is that the supply of low-profit services will decline. While many of the best doctors are focusing on cosmetic procedures, doctors unable to succeed in doing these cosmetic procedures will provide public service care. This will bring down the quality of regular health-care for the entire nation.

Doctors need to stop worrying about the money and reexamine why they went into medicine in the first place. Society needs health-care professionals that are passionate about their careers and committed to providing an important service to humanity. Unfortunately, the trend in health care reform may reduce a doctor's wages. Eventually, doctors may make less than teachers.

This, however, should not matter. Physicians are public servants with a responsibility to their patients. The American Medical Association's code of ethics says, "The proximity of large financial incentives to individual treatment decisions should be limited in order to prevent physicians' personal financial concerns from creating a conflict with their role as individual patient advocates."

Doctors may want more money, but the health and safety of their patients should not have to suffer because of it. Doctors need to start following their lofty code of ethics and stop placing unnecessary cosmetic services before the basics of health suffers worldwide, even more.

This editorial is the opinion of The Daily Universe Editorial Board. Daily Universe opinions are not necessarily opinions of BYU, its administrators or The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.



Viewpoint

Students have a voice

Amid the sea of acronyms at BYU is an important one that you may not have heard of unless you are the leader of a club or other student organization.

The University Student Council, or USC, is a body of student leaders representing more than 150 clubs and organizations across campus.

Its goal is to increase campus unity and improve the quality of student leadership at BYU.

The USC was established in 1998 under the direction of BYUSA with tremendous support from university administrators. Janet S. Scharman, dean of Students, said the USC provides an opportunity for every organization on campus to hear from President Bateman and other key administrators.

But according to Scharman, those administrators want more than just to talk. They also want to listen.

She has been so pleased with the council's progress in initiating student leaders that she awarded the Student Life Dean's Award in the spring of 1999.

Christine Jackman is the current BYUSA vice president acting chair of USC. She has been with the organization since its creation last fall during the inaugural conference.

"It was the first time ever in BYU history that the student leaders had joined together with a common vision in regard to the university," Jackman said.

President Bateman was and remains the truest ally of the project.

"I believe it is important that each of us strives for unity both individually and through our various organizations as we enter our Zion university," he said at the USC conference on Oct. 16, 1999.

We have been excited to see the progress of the USC this year.

We are confident that the council will continue to help students better serve other students, unite student leaders with a common vision, and provide university administrators with an unusually candid look at

what issues are on the minds of student leaders.

The next conference will be March 18. This time, Elder Henry B. Eyring will address student leaders.

In addition to two annual conferences, the USC hosts monthly collaborative conferences for student leaders. These are specifically designed to allow students the opportunity to share ideas and partner with others from different organizations. Those who participate would agree that indeed, two (or more) heads are often better than one.

We have been especially pleased that university administrators are using the council as a means by which to collect student input.

In October, for example, two key administrators followed President Bateman at the USC conference to discuss off-campus housing and technology issues with student leaders.

Following their remarks, USC organizers, in a cooperative effort with BYUSA's Student Advisory Council, divided the student leaders into groups where they brainstormed ideas and solutions for presentation back to administrators.

Who says there is no student voice at BYU?

Take the time to look and you will find that university administrators are eager to work with students, not against them. There are countless ways to make your voice heard and make a difference.

We would encourage interested students to find a niche where they can contribute to the student voice on campus, whether by sitting as a voting member of a university committee or conducting research on issues and preparing proposals.

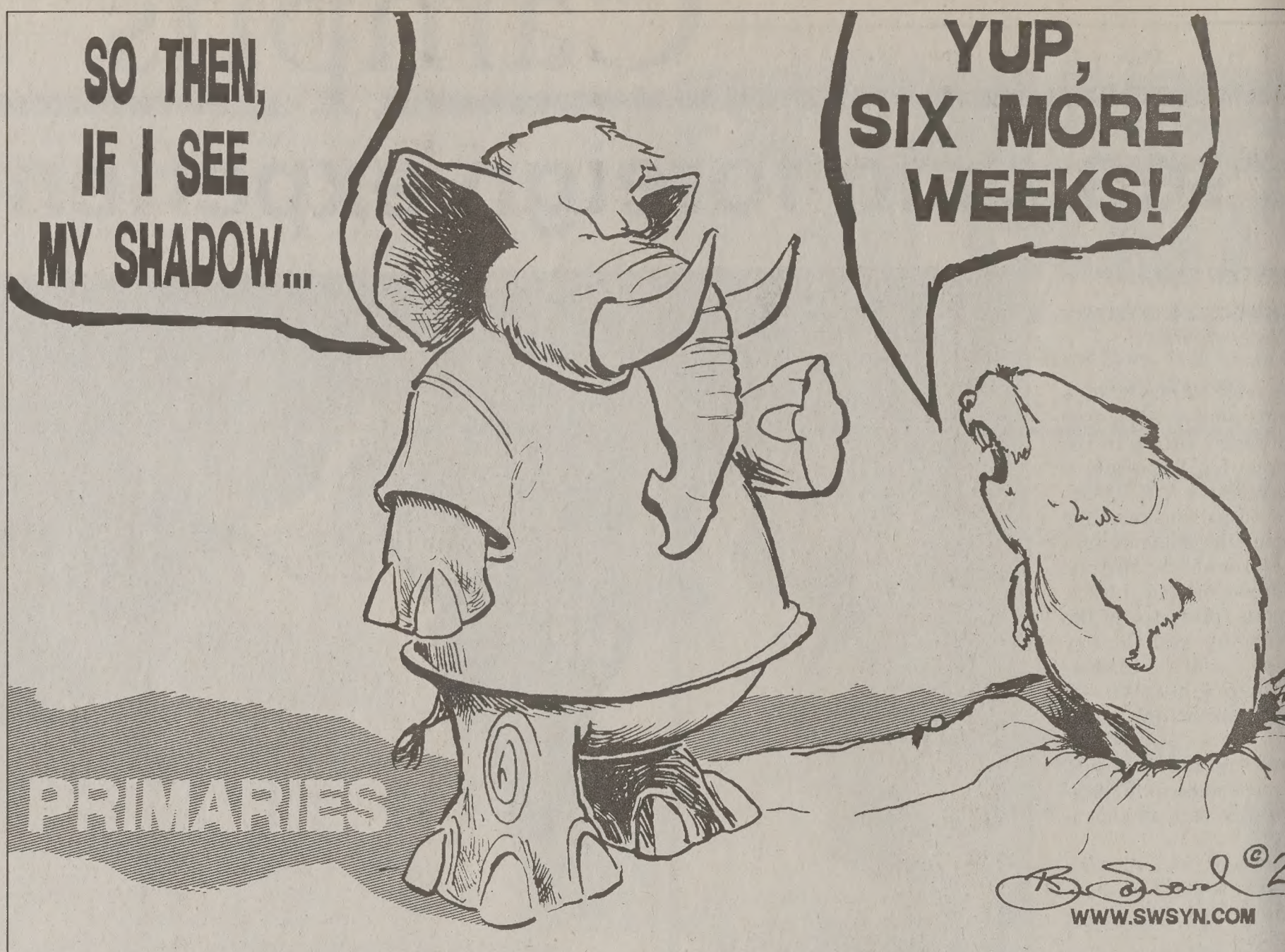
We would love to help students get connected to such opportunities both inside and outside of BYUSA.

If you would like to learn more about the USC or other programs, come visit us in 3400 WSC or reach us at byusa@byu.edu. We promise to respond immediately.



By Eric Perry and Sharon Varga

BYUSA president and vice president



Readers' Forum

Letters may be submitted at BYU NewsNet offices, 5538 WSC, sent by e-mail (letters@du2.byu.edu) or faxed to 378-2959.

It's all about atmosphere

Dear Editor:

I am appalled at the opinions expressed in the letter regarding BYU housing. The author suggests all non-BYU students be kicked out of BYU-approved housing. Not only is the letter ignorant, but it is insulting to a great number of men and women who may not have the opportunity at this time to attend BYU — the same people who pay tithes that subsidize tuition at BYU.

If we feed the ignorance so adamantly displayed in the letter, the environment we hold so dear here in Provo will diminish. People move here for a reason. That reason, aside from school or work, is to be surrounded by people that hold similar values and will encourage them to better themselves, without being put in compromising situations. You don't have to go to BYU to be one of these people.

I am not denying the problems expressed in the letter — overcrowding and Honor Code violations. I am, however, suggesting we come up with a better alternative to this problem, perhaps more emphasis on enforcement of these rules. Those who do not want to live under these conditions will leave quickly when the consequences are enforced.

In wanting to better myself and be surrounded by people I can participate in "wholesome recreational activities" with, it is suggested I am to be denied a place to live simply because I don't attend BYU — all for lower rent. Are we willing to ignore charity, brotherly love, missionary work, fellowshiping, faith and repentance all in the name of a dollar? Shame on you who think your checkbook is more important than the spiritual well-being of others.

Evonne Olson
Thousand Oaks, Calif.

Soapbox returns

Dear Editor:

I was happy to see the student protesting the cancellation of the soapbox in Tuesday's paper. The soapbox is awesome. It is great to be able to express ideas and speak about issues. Fortunately, it wasn't cancelled, just put away for the winter. On Wednesday, the Student Advisory Council will be bringing the soapbox back, having a kick-off for the elections. The Student Advisory Council also sponsors town meetings, which are also open forums. They are just more structured including a topic and administration. For anyone who wants to voice their opinion, the next town meeting will be today, and the topic is Information Technology Services.

Benjamin Traver
El Paso, Texas

Plan ahead for safety

Dear Editor:

I'd like to reiterate the concern for driver and pedestrian ethics from Tuesday's Readers' Forum. Life is a great thing and I'd like to be around to enjoy it. I have almost been hit three times in the last 10 days by inconsiderate drivers. Don't get me wrong, I know that the drivers waited too long to get ready and get moving so they have to make up for lost time. Give yourself another five minutes or 10 if you're traveling during the rush hours. Those extra minutes keep you on time, leave you time to be considerate to the other drivers, and best of all, you won't have any unsightly hood ornaments — namely us pedestrians.

So, remember, give yourself plenty of time, be considerate to pedestrians and other drivers, think before you act and don't drive when angry — it's better to walk a few blocks to blow off steam. If everyone did this, there would be fewer fatalities, fewer distressing fender benders and lower insurance rates.

Mark Lasley
Hopkins, Mo.

Crosswalk solution

Dear Editor:

I haven't ever walked across the street at the University Avenue crosswalk just west of the soccer field, but I've stopped many times for students trying to cross the street. My friend once recounted a story about how she started crossing the street at that crosswalk and caused a car accident. I don't think she was the one who caused the accident — it was the drivers of the cars who weren't paying attention to a pedestrian trying to cross.

We can debate endlessly whether drivers or pedestrians are more at fault. The drivers and the students crossing the street are dealing with this less-than-perfect setup, sometimes with devastating results.

While I know there is no perfect solution to most traffic issues, I would like to make a proposal. If there were a flashing red light (which would by law require a car to stop and then proceed) that could be set off by the pedestrian pushing a button at the side of the road, the cars could be better alerted to the presence of someone wanting to cross. Next to the flashing light should be a sign that reads, "Stop for pedestrian when red light flashing." Several times, I've accidentally shot past someone waiting in the crosswalk because they weren't visible. Also, I've stopped at the crosswalk for a pedestrian only to have the cars following behind me change lanes and whip around me, endangering the person in the crosswalk.

I am also sending this letter to Provo City. I encourage all those concerned with the situation to contact the city as well.

Daniel Dolberg
Stockton, Calif.

Cleanliness not an issue

Dear Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to relieve the stressed minds of the toilet hovers. A letter published on Tuesday called to readers' attention the lack of paper toilet seat covers in the restrooms on campus. Please allow me to make two comments.

First of all, I would like to point out that the bathrooms are not merely outwardly clean, but rather, they are clean — even disinfected. I had the privilege of working for a custodial crew on campus, and after the toilets are cleaned daily, there is no way but by the hand of God that there are any germs on that toilet anywhere. The acid used to clean those would kill anything that even resembled a germ, so don't panic.

Second, who's to say that the seat is dirty? Personally, I use the restrooms on campus almost every day, and I haven't caught any life-threatening or any other diseases yet.

So relax and let the custodians do their job; they are good at it. Just appreciate the fact that you attend one of the nicest, cleanest universities in the world.

Randall Larsen
Tigard, Ore.

Add women's sports

Dear Editor:

Here's a win-win solution to Title IX: instead of dropping two men's sports, add two women's sports. This makes about as much sense as Title IX itself.

Peter Ahlstrom
Fairborn, Ohio

Freedom to choose

Dear Editor:

I am appalled at the letter concerning respect for the anthem. The author remembers that this is the United States. Here, people are free to do what they please, as long as laws are not violated. Members of the church, we believe everyone has free agency to do as they please. Of course there is no exception to the consequences of those actions.

I have just finished serving eight years in the U.S. Marine Corps. In the always stopped and rendered saluting or standing at attention the flag was raised or lowered. It is a tradition that was always followed.

At BYU there is no regulation that states one must stop and place their hand over their heart. Whether it takes 15 seconds or two seconds does not matter. Here are free to do what they please. Let them have their free agency.

I love my country and have respect for the flag. I always stand at attention for the flag. I have my own opinion and it is what I choose to do. There are others who choose not to stand at attention.

I think making people stop and stand at attention for the flag would be like Lucifer's plan of forcing everyone to follow the presence of our Father.

Better yet, the university could have a school rule and hire hundreds of station themselves throughout the campus and cite people for not stopping and standing at attention. Let the offenders be kicked out of school. That would teach them.

Michael Teerlink
Provo

Bring back excitement

Dear Editor:

Rise and Shout, Norm Chow is coming.

Norm Chow was a good offensive coordinator and a good man. Unfortunately, he has been away from the team for a long time since his tenure ended. We have spent too many years watching the football team play. Chow's unimaginative play after time we watched as the team ran, run, punt offense failed to win. It is time to get a new seat in the stands. BYU needs more than talented players. They need a man who will coach them to optimize the skills of the athletes.

BYU has never been a strong team and for that reason we need to recruit the strongest runners (although Staley is certainly in the top few). We have always been a team with a lot of quick, agile quarterbacks, receivers and huge offensive lines. Let's hope our new offensive coordinator will take us back to good old potatoes BYU football. Let's bring back days of 80-yard touchdown receptions, yard quarterback keeps and four-point conversions. Don't let legends such as the Belles, Hunter "the Punter" and Jasora by trying to be a team we never were and never will be.

Also, if the gymnastics team is an alternative program, perhaps they could perform during next year's time show. It would certainly be more interesting than watching the back of the Band.

Matthew Smith
Provo

Readers' Forum Guidelines

BYU NewsNet invites students, professors and BYU staff to write letters to the editor. Anonymous letters will not be printed. All letters must be typed and are not to exceed 300 words.

Name, home town and phone number must accompany all letters. Letters are subject to editing for length and clarity. Letters must be submitted in person at BYU NewsNet offices, 5538 WSC, sent by e-mail (letters@du2.byu.edu) (no attachments) or faxed to 378-2959. Ernie, the opinion editor, can be reached at 378-2957.

Acting is focus of Mask Club

FRINTON WILKINS
frinton@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

age is completely black. Wood boxes are the only lighting. The lighting is simple. Music is piped into the through wheezy speakers. The Mask Club is designed to detract as possible from the action on stage. The Mask Club is perfect again.

Two actors rehearse for the play Thursday afternoon. The play they are rehearsing is a theater of the absurd play "Spaces Between Us: the play of Il and Elle," an original play written by a BYU student. The Mask Club is a laboratory program designed to help students get experience producing and directing. AdreAnn Sundrud, a student studying drama, is a member of the Mask Club.

"People do original work, people do a full-length play scene at the most," she

Club plays are usually 30 and 40 minutes long, she said. This means that some plays are designed to fit into the time restrictions.

From time restrictions, the Mask Club functions under limitations normally imposed on other productions, Sundrud said.

Set pieces allowed are of various sizes. While used, is minimal and downplayed.

Helps people focus on the theater, said the writer of the play, Christensen said. Theater of the absurd, including such plays as "Waiting for Godot" and "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead," is benefited by fewer and simpler set pieces, she said.

The minimal use of props also helps reduce the cost of producing so many different plays every semester,

library lived concert series' ant harmonies

HAUNDRA WILSON
haundra@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

on the first Friday of every year, music replaces the usual silence of the Howard W. Library.

has started to give students a chance to study for a short time, by beautiful music," said Peterson, who has been organizing concerts since they began 10 years ago.

said the afternoon concerts from September through the main floor of the law library garden window.

Stewart, a law school assistant, has been organizing the concerts since 1990.

chance for students to sit and listen to performances, which are really enjoyed by people who have real talent, Stewart said.

that usually features the talents of students and faculty, but is not affiliated with BYU participated.

With, four BYU students who are members of the Metropolitan Orchestra performed, Peterson said. The library has also hosted the Utah Company, Celtic groups and guitarists.

s concerts will include the Utah Cello Quartet; Ramona Peterson, winner of the Utah Symphony "Youth" award; and Nathan Peterson, a graduating senior who will be a soloist last spring. Peterson, director of the cellists, said the cello is the closest sound to a human voice. This instrument produces all the voices of a

u're either part of the problem or part of the solution.

H. Eldridge
O. Cleaver

ase Recycle
The
y Universe



Stacy Young/Daily Universe

Tim Hart and Shelly Brown practice a production for the Mask Club, a BYU laboratory program designed to give students experience producing and directing plays.

use a minimalist background," Christensen said. "It really puts the emphasis on the substance of the play and on what the actors are doing with that substance."

The dark set pieces are well suited to her play, Christensen said. Theater of the absurd, including such plays as "Waiting for Godot" and "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead," is benefited by fewer and simpler set pieces, she said.

The minimal use of props also helps reduce the cost of producing so many different plays every semester;

Sundrud said. The club performs three times a week.

"A neutral stage is easier to convert to a lot of other things," Sundrud said. "So this is all they get so what they can do shows in here."

Shelly Brown, 20, a junior from San Francisco majoring in history, plays one of the leads in "Spaces Between Us."

"It's an excellent way to show new experimental ideas and try things out," Brown said.

Students involved in the Mask Club said they feel that despite the

avant-garde nature of the productions, they add an important element to BYU's theater scene.

The Mask Club performs every Thursday at 1, 2 and 4 p.m. in the Nelke Experimental Theater in the HFAC. The performances are open to the general public and admission is free.

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Progress Report #3 is online.

BYU VS.

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On the road again...

Cougars look to
end 2-game funk
at San Diego St.

By SETH LEWIS

Lewis@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

The BYU men's basketball team has plenty of alibis for their midseason swoon.

Make your pick: Injuries, sickness, just plain bad luck.

Any thing is, the Cougars won't accept any of them.

"We're not looking for excuses," senior guard Nathan Cooper said.

That the Cougars are looking for Mountain West Conference win snap out of a two-game funk.

Well, San Diego State.

When the Cougars meet the Aztecs tonight at Cox Arena (8 p.m., KSL-1160 radio), the matchup will feature two teams

headed south faster than an escaped convict in a Camaro.

The Aztecs (5-13, 0-5) haven't won since Y2K, losing seven-

straight since a win over High Point Dec. 28.

But you wouldn't have guessed it the way the Cougars (14-5, 3-3)

are doing their best used-car salesman impressions at practice Tuesday, gushing praise for the Aztecs.

"They're a good, athletic team," senior guard Todd Christensen said.

"We have to keep in mind that they're going to come out and play."

"We're not at the point where we overlook anybody."

Especially since that's what doomed the Cougars against Air Force.

In fact, this matchup has some of the same feel of that game: BYU

on the road, faces a perennial rival.

...until the similarities end there.

The Falcons were short, with no one over 6-foot-6.

The Aztecs have height, including foot-10 Marcelo Correa, who averages 10.7 points and 6.2 rebounds a game.

The Aztecs also have a penchant for making MWC marquee big men appear.

Against San Diego State, Utah's Jono Mottola scored four points, spars Kambala had 13 and Colorado State's Cedric Goodwyn



Jenn Parrish/Daily Universe

Eric Nielsen protects the ball against a CSU player Jan. 22. The Cougars look to break a two-game skid against SDSU tonight.

was held to 12.

Will the same happen to Mekeli Wesley?

After all, after sub-par performances last week, he accepts responsibility for the Cougars' slide.

"We're obviously disappointed about being swept those games," said Wesley, who had 12 and 10 points against Air Force and New Mexico, respectively.

"The way I see it, if I play well, we win those games. I'm the captain of this team. If I had played better, we would have swept that trip," Wesley said.

Now, there's just one problem: Wesley's feeling sick.

After missing Monday's practice

with the flu, he suited up Tuesday, but hardly looked well enough to play.

With Terrell Lyday hampered by an ankle sprain and Michael Vranes still stung with the stomach flu, Wesley's sickness compounds the situation.

"This is a team that can ill-afford those things to happen," Cleveland said.

Particularly since BYU is only eight players deep.

"We have our backs against the wall," Christensen said. "We have to win these next few games, no doubt about it."

"When you go in a slump, sooner or later you're going to come out of it," Christiansen said.

Vermeil leaves after title win

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Vermeil's retirement plans don't center on sitting in a rocking chair all day surrounded by his kids.

"I'd like to try to get a job in television again and finish a couple years in broadcasting," Vermeil said Tuesday

after announcing he is leaving the St. Louis Rams. Vermeil's not real excited about that.

Vermeil and his wife celebrated their 44th anniversary days before the Rams beat the Tennessee Titans 23-16

in the Super Bowl, and during the buildup, much was made of Carol Vermeil's statement that her husband has

been lying to prove.

Vermeil said he and his wife only had a couple of minute conversations on retirement — one Monday

the other Tuesday morning.

Vermeil got out because he realized it's impossible to win a Super Bowl victory as an exit.

"I think the time is right," Vermeil said in an emotional well. "Very few people in this profession get this opportunity."

Carol Vermeil, who attended the news conference, did contradict her husband.

"It was his decision," she said. "There's a time for anything. But the worst thing is overstaying your time, isn't it?"

The decision elevates offensive coordinator Mike Martz

to coach. The Rams signed Martz, who directed the NFL's rated offense (33 points a game), to a two-year contract in January that assured he would inherit Vermeil's

job.

Martz, scheduled to undergo surgery today for a neck problem, didn't attend the news conference. A Rams spokesman said Martz would postpone surgery and hold a press conference.

Vermeil's voice broke often and tears flowed freely at

Tuesday's news conference, attended by several players, assistant coaches and personnel director Charley Arney. Team president John Shaw introduced Vermeil, referring to him as "Champ."

"I don't have the ability to verbalize how I feel," he said. "I'm so appreciative of what my coaching staff has done. And these players, these guys are unbelievable."

Vermeil's quick decision had a lot to do with emotion. He didn't want to be involved with the free agency period that starts Feb. 11, so he leaves with two years to go on a five-year, \$9 million contract.

"I don't want to participate in that," Vermeil said. "I don't want to cut the squad. These are my guys."

Owner Georgia Frontiere tried to talk Vermeil out of it. Shaw said he should at least wait to make sure and special teams coach Frank Ganz made an impassioned plea.

Rams players just wanted the best for the coach who made it a point to get to know all of them.

Linebacker Mike Jones, who made the game-saving tackle in the Super Bowl, recalled his first meeting with Vermeil, when the coach came around his desk and locked him in a bear hug.

"He told me I'm his guy and I'm like, 'What are you doing?' Everything he did was genuine, and we're going to be Vermeil guys for the rest of our lives."

Offensive guard Adam Timmerman found out about the retirement when he got off a plane in Honolulu, where he and seven teammates will play in the Pro Bowl on Sunday.

"I guess I thought he would finish it out," Timmerman said. "I'm happy he could leave this way. There's probably no better ending to a coach's career."

Linebacker London Fletcher said he expected an announcement on the flight back from Atlanta. He said he's never been around a more emotional coach, recalling several private conversations with Vermeil.

"Coach Vermeil will always be special in my heart," Fletcher said.

Reynolds named offensive coordinator

By RUSS RIGGS

Russ@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

Easy come, easy go.

Two days after offensive coordinator Norm Chow headed for greener pastures, BYU named Lance Reynolds as his replacement.

The former running backs coach has been with the Cougar program for 17 years, and head coach Lavell Edwards

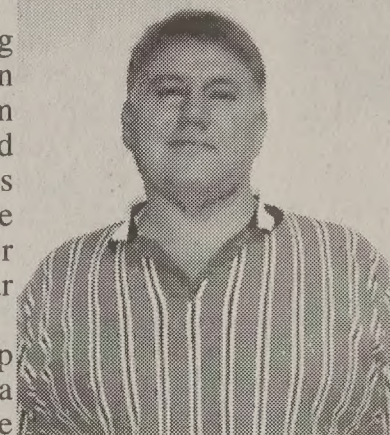
says the decision to name Reynolds as the heir apparent to the Cougar attack was an easy one.

"I had already made up my mind about Lance a while before we made the announcement," Edwards said.

Although Reynolds has been with the Cougar program since 1979, he knows that being offensive coordinator at BYU is similar to taking a seat on a wood burning stove.

"Being in the spotlight is not something I want. But it comes with the territory of being offensive coordinator," Reynolds told 1320 KFAN.

Reynolds started his coaching career at BYU as a graduate assistant in 1979. He was hired by Snow College in 1981 to be the assistant head coach and then moved on to Ricks College in 1982 to help out with the offense.



Lance Reynolds

He returned to BYU in 1983 and has been a big part of the Cougar offensive machine ever since.

"Lance has been an integral part of our coaching staff for the past 17 years," Edwards said in a press release.

"His hard work and dedication to the program over the years has more than prepared him for this opportunity. I fell

extremely confident in his abilities and know he will do a great job."

Although the Cougar offense is known for producing great quarterbacks like McMahon, Young, and Detmer, the running game under Reynolds has produced it's fair share of stars.

Thousand yard rushers include Ronney Jenkins, Brian McKenzie, Jamal Willis, and Vai Sikahema. Other dynamic backs Reynolds has coached include Lakei Heimuli and Matt Bellini.

Current fullback Kalani Sitake says although Coach Chow will be missed, he and his teammates are excited about the change.

"The whole offense wanted Coach Reynolds to be the new offensive coordinator," Sitake said. "He's more old fashioned. He wants us to be a tougher offense, and we'll be a lot more physical."

Reynolds said he is equally large about working with the young army.

"This is a real honor for me, to be the offensive coordinator and to work alongside one of the greatest and most well respected coaching staffs in the country," Reynolds said in the release. "Not only that, but we have a great group of student-athletes that I'm most excited about working with them in this capacity."

Since Reynolds is fresh from his position as running backs coach, fans may be wondering if running ball will become the focus of the Cougar offense.

However, rest easy Cougar fans: there is no need to fear.

"We would like to be more explosive and be more consistent. We want to run the ball more effectively, not more," Reynolds said.

Track squads Idaho bound

By CAMILLA SCOTT

Camilla@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

By participating in its third meet at Idaho State University in the last four weeks, the BYU track teams have found a home away from home.

The entire squad travels to compete at ISU in the Mountain States Classic this Friday and Saturday.

Why are so many invitationals held at ISU?

"They have the best facilities (in the area) to run on," women's coach Craig Poole said.

ISU hosts the meets in the Holt Arena, which was built in the 1970's and paid for with voluntary student fee increases.

"It's a big arena with a 200-meter banked-board track," Trenton Huntsinger, coach of the men's and women's track teams at ISU, said.

The Simplot Games, an annual indoor track and field competition for high school athletes in the U.S. and Canada, provides the track material in exchange for use of the arena.

According to Simplot's Web site, it is one of the fastest and most unique indoor tracks in the nation.

The boards that are being run on are never left on the track for more than three years, coach Huntsinger said. Simplot also replaces three lanes of board almost every year.

This newer material allows athletes to get better footing, which results in faster times.

Aside from the facilities, the trip is less expensive for the Cougars. The location allows the team to drive instead of fly.

"It's fun because we are able to get to know the other members of the team," Marty Hernandez said. She will run the 3000-meter Saturday in her first trip to Pocatello this season.

Due to the difference in events and level of competition, the sprinters and throwers don't practice or compete with the distance runners.

It is also convenient for other universities from Utah, Wyoming and Idaho to make the trip.

At the Mountain States Classic this weekend, nine teams will be competing in addition to some pentathletes from the University of Montana and other unattached competitors.

"It's one of the better meets in the nation," coach Huntsinger said.

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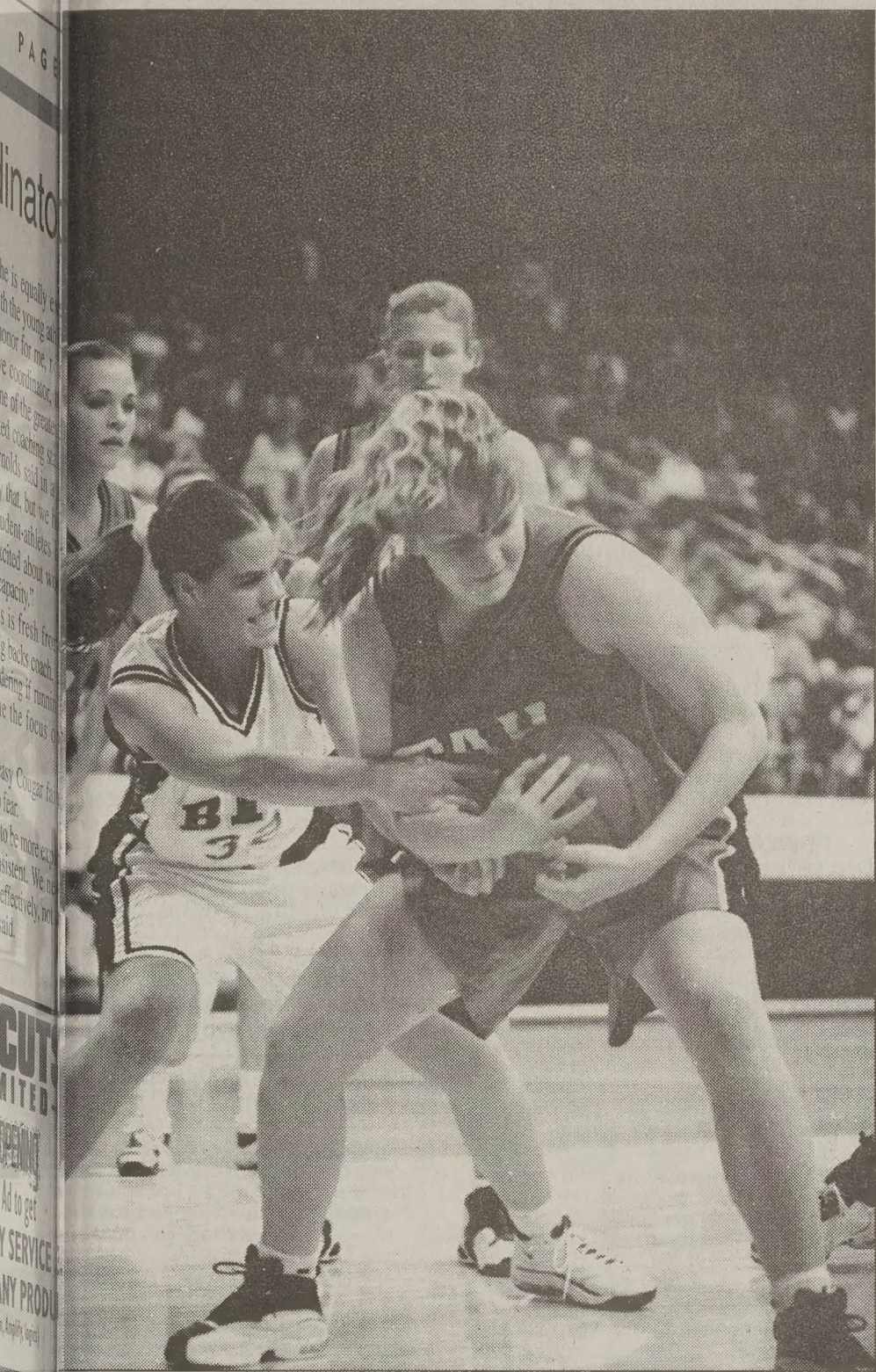
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Jenny Barnett/Daily Universe

Women's hoops close out midseason on the road

By ANNA HAYNIE
Haynie@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

Down, but not out, the Cougars close up the first half of Mountain West Conference play with two games on the road.

After a disappointing loss to Utah Friday night, the Cougars (13-5, 3-2) are now vying with New Mexico for third place in the MWC.

The Cougars will face sixth-place Air Force Academy (4-14, 1-3) Thursday night in Colorado, and then head to New Mexico, where they will take on the Lobos (12-6, 3-2) Saturday night.

This week will be a crucial week of play for the team, head coach Trent Shippen said.

"If we can get both of these games, it will keep us in the hunt to win the conference," Shippen said.

Looking at the Falcons record, it does not look like that game will be too difficult.

The Falcons recently broke an eight-game losing skid, defeating San Diego two weeks ago.

Their winning streak did not last long, however — one game — and Air Force Academy saw losses the last two times they hit the court.

Besides that, the Cougars generally do well on the road and are looking forward to this trip.

"It'll be a good opportunity for us to release our frustrations from our previous games like Utah and CSU," Erin Thorn said. "We usually

play pretty well on the road, this win would really get our confidence back up."

Regardless of their opponents' records, the Cougars are not going to take any game sitting down.

"You can't take any team flat," Thorn said. "We know we can win if we go out there and play hard, but we can't just overlook them."

Despite their losing record, the Falcons are ranked nationally in more than one area.

They are fifth in the nation in three pointers, averaging 7.8 per game. Leading the Falcons behind the arc is senior Megan Thiedeman. Thiedeman is ranked fourth nationally and heads the MWC with a 3.39 average.

Representing Air Force on the MWC scoring charts at fourth and fifth are Thiedeman and Mollie Peters with 15.1 and 14.4 points per game, respectively.

The Cougars are close behind Air Force in three pointers, averaging 7.3 per game.

Still leading offensively for the Cougars is Jill Adams, who is sixth in scoring with a 14.4 average and Erin Thorn, BYU's three-pointer superstar. Thorn is averaging three treys per game.

So what's it going to take to pull off two wins this weekend?

"We just need to mentally prepare," Shippen said.

"We can't look back at our previous losses, we just have to move forward."

tries to rip the ball away from her Utah opponent. The team flies to Air Force tonight and New Mexico on Sat.

Softball forges first season

By JIMMER ALBRECHT
jalt@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

The softball team is experiencing its first season. The team is competing in their first season in the Mountain West Conference. The team is competing in the Mountain West Conference. The team is competing in the Mountain West Conference.

The team starts off Friday at 9 a.m., facing Sacramento State and then plays San Jose that afternoon at 3. On Saturday the lady Cougars will take on 12th-ranked Cal. Berkeley in the morning and then end the tourney playing San Jose once again.

"We have a very solid, well-rounded team," Eakin said. "We are looking for great speed from Liz Smith and Lindsey Hodgen. We also expect great leadership from our captains as well as from Jackie Ellis who is a transfer from Oregon and has had Division I experience."

"All our players are key, and with our defense and pitching we should be tough," Eakin said. "Our pitching staff is really strong," said pitching coach Lisa Hall. "Meghann Pricer, co-captain of the team, is a transfer student from Arizona with a lot of speed. She tops anywhere from 64-66 mph, which is very fast from 43 feet."

"We also have Maryon Dewitt, and she has a lot of movement on her ball. We have great strengths with our starting two pitchers. They both have amazing talent," Hall said.

"For some of them it was a new experience," Eakin said. "We have played seven games in the fall and ended up with a record of 7-1, but this weekend will be a great opportunity to play out on the field."

"We have a lot of talent on this team, and the girls are going to go out and battle and see what this first season brings."

"The whole team is really excited and grateful that softball has been sanctioned," said co-captain Meghann Pricer. "A lot of people will look past us because we're new, but we hope to use that to our advantage and come up and bite some people."

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NCAA revises eligibility

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — High school athletes will now have an easier time meeting academic standards that allow them to play college sports.

A new set of NCAA rules will let high schools determine whether athletes have fulfilled course requirements for college eligibility.

The decision means that many athletes who had been denied scholarships in the past will now be able to qualify for them.

A committee of the governing body recommended the change last spring, and the NCAA Division I and II membership recently approved the legislation.

The NCAA eliminated certain parts of the course requirements, giving high school principals more latitude in setting the agenda.

The change takes effect immediately.

The old rules were much more stringent and allowed the NCAA to determine what were acceptable course. For example, one previous regulation disqualified social studies courses that devoted more than 25 percent of classroom time to current affairs or independent study.

"We've become more generic in

defining those academic criteria," Bob Oliver, director of NCAA membership services, said Wednesday.

The new rules require several things: that a course be considered college preparatory, be taught at or above the high school's regular academic level and qualify for graduation credit in English, math, natural or physical science, social science, foreign language, computer science or nondiscriminatory religion or philosophy.

Independent study, individual instruction and correspondence and Internet courses may now be part of the new criteria for core subjects.

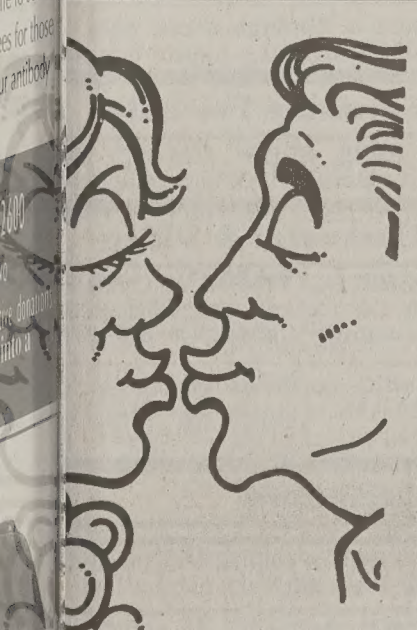
Oliver said the changes came about after two years of discussions.

"In areas of science and English, for example, they do a lot of interdisciplinary work," he said.

"We're saying, if you give a course in English credit at your high school and that's preparing the student for a four-year college, then that's meeting the intent of what we're trying to do."

He said the intent is to prepare students to succeed in college.

"Not are they able to use a computer to edit their term paper, but are they prepared to write a term paper?" he said.



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Elder Neal A. Maxwell

Member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

Elder Neal A. Maxwell has served as a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles since 1981. Before that he was a President of the First Quorum of the Seventy (1976-1981) and an Assistant to the Quorum of the Twelve (1974-1976).

Elder Maxwell received his bachelor's and master's degrees in political science from the University of Utah. Not long afterward he served as a legislative assistant to U.S. Senator Wallace F. Bennett (Utah). In the years following, Elder Maxwell held a variety of administrative and teaching positions at the University of Utah and was its executive vice president when appointed commissioner of the Church Educational System in 1970.

He has served on the boards of directors of several business firms, including Questar

Corporation and Deseret News Publishing Company. Elder Maxwell has been active in public service and has served as chairman of the Utah Constitutional Revision Commission.

The author of many articles on politics and government for national, professional, and local publications, one of his most recent of 28 books received a literary prize for LDS literature. Elder Maxwell has been awarded honorary doctoral degrees from the University of Utah, Westminster College, Utah State University, and Ricks College, as well as from BYU.

Elder Maxwell is married to the former Colleen Hinckley. They are the parents of four children and have 24 grandchildren.

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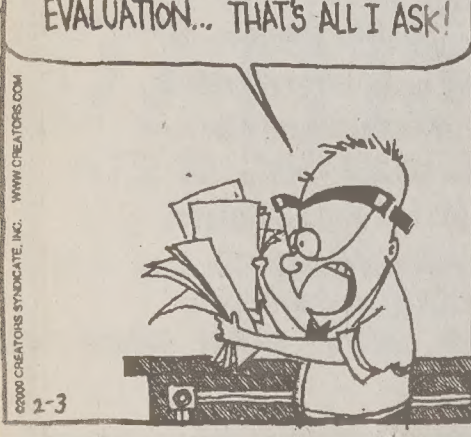
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BAPTISTS from page 1

sive," he said. Durfee said LDS people are overly sensitive. "It's part of the persecution complex that they grew up under. Everybody's picking on them," he said. LDS Church leaders have actively responded to criticism of LDS doctrines.

The church has already expressed its position on such issues, LDS spokesman Dale Bills said. In a 1998 speech, Elder M. Russell Ballard said the LDS church honors religious diversity.

The key is mutual understanding, he said. "With understanding, we can strengthen relationships... unify nations, and even bring peace to a troubled world. Without it chaos, intolerance, hate and war are often the result," Elder Ballard said.

The purpose of the crusade is to show the distinctions between biblical teachings and LDS theology, said Rev. Don Mann, associate pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church.

"We look at other religions which we believe are not consistent with the Bible."

The word "cult" is not intended to imply that "Mormons...are unusual or have strange practices," Mann added.

Most Southern Baptists admire LDS people, Mann said.

"The common perception is of good, moral, upstanding citizens that we think highly of," he

said. "At the moral and practical and relationship level, we have more in common than different." Historically, Southern Baptists have rejected the traditions of organized religion.

Their doctrine is rooted in the Protestant Reformation, which rejected the authority of the Catholic Church and considered the Bible the source of God's will.

Mann said his congregation is made up of independent thinkers.

"We believe America is a marketplace of ideas. We have many visitors, some we agree with and some we don't," he said.

"Our congregation is not easily persuaded to believe something other than their own convictions."

The crusades are sponsored by local churches, not the national organization, said Herb Hollinger, spokesman for the Southern Baptist Convention.

WFI is not part of the church itself, but a separate entity that is funded by individual contributions and "love offerings" from local congregations, he said.

The lack of hierarchy in the Southern Baptist churches can be an advantage or a disadvantage, Hollinger said.

Events like the crusade can be beneficial if they are factual and accurate.

"If the approach is false and gets people angry, or is not correct, that is not helpful," Hollinger said.

LDS leaders have expressed particular concern with allegations that the LDS Church is not Christian.

In a 1998 speech, Elder Boyd K. Packer said, "There is more to it than simply writing a definition of what a Christian is and then rejecting anyone who does not conform to it."

In the same speech, Elder Packer said, "It is one thing to say we are not their kind of Christians. It is quite another to characterize us as not being Christians at all."

"To argue and debate over sacred things usually generates much more heat than light," Elder Packer said.

The crusades "are not motivated by hatred or disgust against a certain group," said Rev. Kevin Kilbreth of the Oak Lawn Baptist Church.

"We are not about bashing or creating animosity," Kilbreth said.

"We want to give a simple, loving witness of what we believe the Bible teaches."

The Southern Baptist faith constitutes the largest Protestant denomination in America. According to the SBC, the faith has more than 15 million adherents.

SBC statements have provoked strong responses from other religious organizations.

"The campaign launched by Southern Baptists to convert Jews to Christianity is an insult to the Jewish people," said the Anti-Defamation League, a Jewish organization that promotes religious tolerance.

Last October the Southern Baptists published a booklet stating that Hindus are, "lost in hopeless darkness."

The Hindu newspaper Vaishnava News quoted Hari Sharma, a Hindu leader in Chicago, as saying, "Whoever publishes such a book does a disservice to the society."

Jeff Johnson, a BYU student who returned from the Richmond, Va., LDS mission in 1998, described working among Southern Baptists.

"They are the nicest people in the world," Johnson said.

"But they are taught every single week of their lives that Mormons are out to deceive them."

He described concern among the missionaries after a church called The Rock burned a Book of Mormon. Another Testament of Jesus Christ in a meeting.

"They are just as set in their ways as we are in ours," Johnson said.

Johnson recalls his experience when he knocked on the door of a Southern Baptist member in Glasgow, Va.

"The woman opened the door and said, 'Let's just pray for each other and call it a day.'"

Provo leaders will pick stadium builder

By **RODNEY ZWAHLEN**
Rodney@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Professional baseball wants Provo, and Provo wants professional baseball.

City leaders are nearing a decision on which firm will build the stadium that will house the Milwaukee Brewers rookie league baseball team.

Leland Gamette, city director of economic development and chair of the committee assigned to study the situation, said a proposal should go to the City Council soon.

"The committee has made their recommendations," he said Wednesday.

"I will meet with the mayor in a day or so, and the City Council will come into play a little bit farther along."

"The funding and the final approval of the site and design must be done by the municipal council," he said.

Gamette would not release the names of the firms being considered, but municipal council and baseball committee member Mark Hathaway said the original three possibilities have been narrowed down to two.

"Each one of these two could do the job," Hathaway said.

The team currently plays in Helena, Mont., but potential team owners Rob Owens and Linda Gach Ray are anxious to bring the team to Provo, Hathaway said.

"We're not in any hurry, because we want to do things right, but the Brewers want to get it done as soon as possible," he said. "They'll start as soon as we can get them something to play in."

Hathaway said once the city approves the architect and the price, the major obstacle will be financing.

"The timing of the building of the stadium all depends on fund-raising,"

he said. City leaders firmly state they will not force residents to bear the financial burden of the stadium.

"As a councilperson I'm not willing to raise taxes to do this thing, and the mayor has said the same thing on various occasions," Hathaway said. "It isn't a make or break thing economically, so funds are going to have to come from corporate or private funding."

The stadium will be built at Ironton, a city-owned plot of land in southeast Provo. Gamette said it will hold approximately 3,500 people and will cost \$3-4 million.

Since the Brewers will only play approximately 45 home games each summer, Gamette said the stadium will also host other events.

"The stadium will be a community center," he said. "A lot of activities will take place in that center, includ-

ing American Legion and Pony League games, as well as concerts and other things."

Gamette said city officials and residents both agree that professional baseball will be good for Provo.

"Pro baseball has a couple of benefits," Gamette said. "First, there is a strong interest in the community for

it. It also provides another thing that people who come and locate their businesses in Provo will be able to participate in."

Glen Tuckett, retired BYU baseball coach and athletic director, said although he admits he is overly nostalgic, professional baseball needs to return.

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Amended bill passes in Utah House



By **BRIAN D. HENDERSON**
Brian@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

The Utah House of Representatives passed an amended bill on Tuesday that would make the initiative process more difficult by requiring citizen initiatives to contain signatures from all 29 counties in Utah instead of the 20 counties currently needed by law.

Rep. Melvin Brown, R-Salt Lake, successfully proposed the amendment to a bill sponsored by Rep. Tammy Rowan, R-Utah, that she intended to help simplify the initiative process for Utah citizens.

Now, it may simply be harder. If passed, Rowan's bill, H.B. 220,

would eliminate the option for initiatives to come to the legislature for deliberation. Since there is no law requiring lawmakers to hear or debate a citizen initiative, legislators could refuse to let it out of committee and never give it a hearing.

Rowan said she wants to eliminate the bureaucratic confusion.

"Rather than tell citizens they can bring it (the initiative) here, and then just jerk them around when they get here, we're better off saying, we don't think you should come here. Take it straight to the ballot," Rowan said.

To take an initiative straight to the ballot, citizens must collect signatures from at least 10 percent of Utah's population that voted in the last gubernatorial election, including 10 percent of votes cast in each county for 20 counties. Utah has 29 counties.

For an appeal to the legislature, the number of signatures needed is five percent.

But that approach is confusing and unnecessary, Rowan said.

It is confusing because all the work collecting signatures will not guarantee a hearing. It is unnecessary because a constituent only needs to find one legislator who will take up their cause and sponsor it as a bill.

Rep. Brown said he intended to make the process more difficult.

He said people in all rural counties should be offered the opportunity to sign a petition on a statewide initiative.

Because nine counties could be left out of the process under the current law, rural counties would have their voice with Brown's amendment.

Not all lawmakers agree with him. "I think the intention by a number of legislators is to keep the public from setting its own course of action when it comes to the state's future," said House Minority Whip Ralph Becker, D-Salt Lake.

Becker unsuccessfully proposed dropping the required number of counties from 20 to 15. Considering that 80 percent of Utahns live in four counties, Becker said 15 counties would represent an adequate requirement.

He also questioned the constitutionality of the proposed change.

But Brown said his logic has everything to do with the constitution, emphasizing that the United States is a republic, and not a pure democracy. "There's an arrogance up here among some legislators that the people of the state of Utah should not weigh in through the ballot box on policy issues," Becker said.

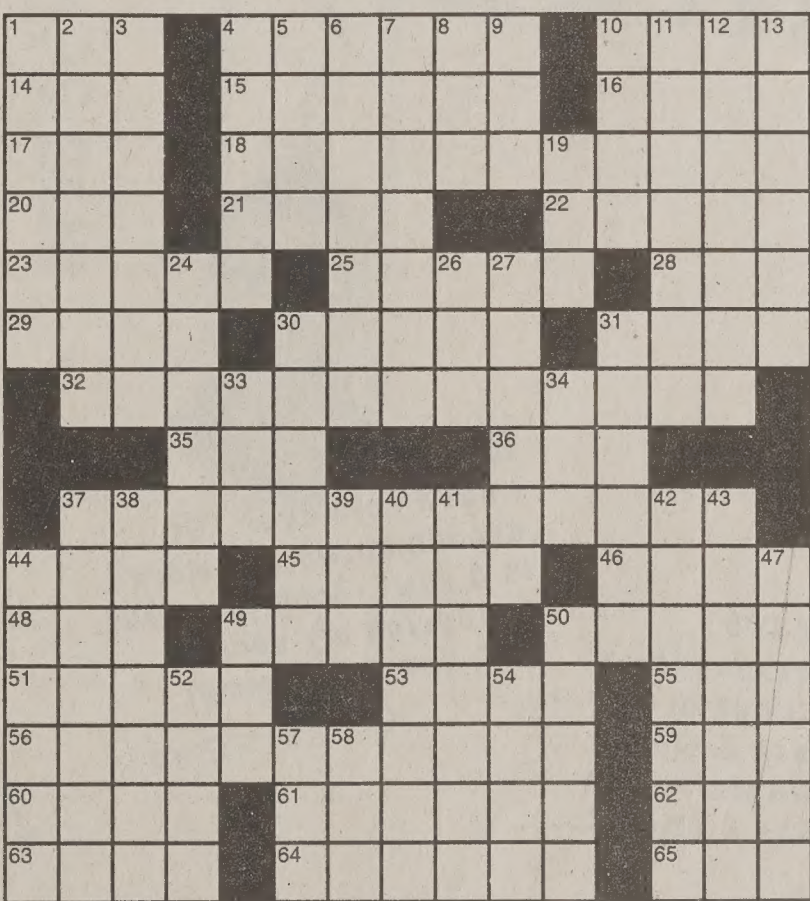
In the state's history, only two initiatives have made it to the ballot and passed, the last time in 1976.

Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1223

- 30 Capture
31 Sandbag
32 Grilling technique
35 Palme (Cannes award)
36 Norm
37 Type of argument
44 Sprite
45 Major's successor
46 Ready for the operating room
48 Addams Family member
49 Human or alien
50 Freetown currency unit
51 Pang
53 Former South Korean president
- DOWN**
- 1 Collapse
2 Cologne change
3 Mint family member
4 Stand for
5 Clash of heavyweights
6 Free
7 Mushroom variety
8 Actor Alejandro
9 Ranch extension?
10 Not well?
11 Eroded
12 Suddenly stopped working
13 Hire
19 Part of an Olympics chant
24 Like pine scent, say
26 Certain Wall Streeter, briefly



Puzzle by Joe DiPietro

- 27 Figure skater, at times
30 Penman
31 Scuffle
33 1950 film noir classic
34 Court V.I.P.'s
37 Casual greeting
38 Like no-holds-barred sports
39 Sixth-century date
40 Riviera resort
41 Poker variety
- 42 Triathletes
43 Catherine of "The Convent"
44 Log cutter
47 Classified, informally
- 49 Royal jelly maker
50 Distrustful
52 Trans-Siberian Railroad city
54 They just won't fly

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.

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Nonviolent solution crucial in Chechnya, Albright says

Associated Press

MOSCOW — Clashing openly with Russia over Chechnya, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said Monday the conflict in the rebellious republic had inflicted "an incredible amount of misery" on civilians by targeting them indiscriminately and forcing them from their homes. She appealed to Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov to open a dialogue with Chechen political figures. "We believe there is no military solution to the Chechen problem," she said. But Ivanov responded at a joint news conference that Russia had to stand firmly against terrorism, a view which he said other governments shared, and that no one had come up with an effective recipe to deal with the extremist threat. He said Russia understood fully the concern its offensive had stirred abroad, but insisted "all our counterparts share the necessity to fight most fully against terrorism." The offensive, championed by acting President Vladimir Putin and widely approved by Russian national-

ists, will not extinguish terrorism and is causing diplomatic isolation for Russia around the world, Albright said.

Their open debate after more than three hours of talks underscored the skid in U.S.-Russian relations, marked also by disagreement over a potential U.S. program for space-based weapons that Russia insists would fuel a race in offensive nuclear arms.

But hinting at a potential for compromise, she said Russia's demand for deeper cutbacks in arsenals and the U.S. pitch for an antimissile defense were being considered in "one package."

Albright said President Clinton was prepared to make a visit to Moscow to continue the dialogue with Putin.

Albright's visit is designed to size up Putin, to push for an easing of restrictions on antimissile defenses and to persuade the new leader to change course in Chechnya.

In a gesture of cooperation despite their differences, Albright and Ivanov took a break while tackling their heavy agenda to sign an agreement designed to tighten controls on tech-

nology used in launching U.S. satellites from Russian space stations.

While Albright and Ivanov conferred at Osobnyak, the foreign ministry's guest house, delegates from the Palestinian Authority, Israel and several Arab countries began a series of meetings aimed at promoting regional cooperation.

"Russia will keep working consistently to attain durable and fair peace in the Middle East region, which can be secured through the restoration of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people," Putin said in a letter to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Putin said he would accept Arafat's invitation to visit Palestinian-held territory "as soon as circumstances permit."

Clinton also has endorsed Palestinian aspirations and declined to endorse congressional legislation affirming Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

A Putin mission was welcomed Monday night by a senior U.S. official, who said "the Russian position is clearly one that is very supportive of moving ahead."

Two Libyans charged in bombing Pan Am flight 103 plead innocent

Associated Press

EDINBURGH, Scotland — The two Libyan defendants charged in the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, pleaded innocent on Wednesday at a pretrial hearing in the Scottish High Court.

Although the trial is scheduled to begin May 3 at a former U.S. air base in the Netherlands, the pretrial session was held in Edinburgh because the defendants did not express a desire to be present.

"In the absence of my client, I formally enter a plea of not guilty to the indictments," said defense attorney Bill Taylor, representing defendant Abdel Basset Ali al-Megrahi. Attorney Richard Keen entered an innocent plea on behalf of co-defendant

Lamen Khalifa Fhimah.

The two men, in custody in the Netherlands, are charged with murder and conspiracy to murder in the explosion of the Pan Am jumbo jet over Lockerbie, Scotland, on Dec. 21, 1988.

The blast killed 259 passengers and crew — including 189 Americans — and 11 people on the ground. The two are also charged with contravention of Britain's Aviation Security Act.

The pleas, which had been expected at a later stage, were a surprise ending at a one-hour hearing held to resolve a disagreement between prosecutors and defense lawyers on measures to conceal the identities of sensitive witnesses. The two sides agreed that the measures would be decided on a case-by-case basis.

Both sides also said they were ready to begin the trial on Monday following several postponements since the suspects last April were taken over by Libya for trial in that country.

Out of court negotiations between prosecutors and the defense have resulted in agreements on evidence that may shorten the trial, previously estimated at two years.

"Good progress is being made on the agreement of noncontested evidence," Taylor said. As a result, he expected that hundreds of witnesses would not have to appear to testify. At a pretrial hearing in December in the Netherlands, prosecutors had requested permission to have witnesses appear in disguise.

IRA threatens N. Ireland Cabinet

Associated Press

BELFAST, Northern Ireland — The revival of Northern Ireland's Protestant-Catholic administration will depend on "substantial progress" toward disarming the Irish Republican Army, British Prime Minister Tony Blair said Wednesday.

Blair scheduled a meeting today with his Irish counterpart, Bertie Ahern, as the two governments struggled to calm the crisis imperiling the binet for Northern Ireland.

The four-party coalition Cabinet — intended cornerstone of the province's 1998 peace accord — finally took shape nine weeks ago as part of a U.S.-brokered deal. But that deal is now falling apart.

After behind-the-scenes diplomacy, Blair's government was expected to announce today whether the Cabinet's powers should be transferred back to London to enable fresh negotiations in Belfast.

Such a move would require the Ulster Unionists to drop their demand

for an IRA arms handover in advance of the Cabinet's formation — but on condition that IRA disarmament would speedily commence in response.

The deal specified that Canadian Gen. John de Chastelain, chair of Northern Ireland's independent disarmament commission, should assess in January whether his secret negotiations with IRA leaders had borne fruit.

Though the British and Irish governments have refused to release the general's full report since its delivery two days ago, Blair emphasized that it contained "insufficient progress."

Blair said his officials were working "day and night" on potential moves the IRA might offer, but he did not sound optimistic.

In Washington, White House Press Secretary Joe Lockhart said President Clinton strongly urged all parties not to allow the Cabinet to unravel.

Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams called the Ulster Unionists' handling of the situation disastrous.

But Ulster Unionist leader David Trimble emphasized they would be obliged to resign from the Cabinet within the next week if the IRA refused to disarm and the British government did not intervene.

The Cabinet cannot operate without the Ulster Unionists, the biggest party in Northern Ireland. But rising Protestant hostility to sharing power with Sinn Fein also means that Ulster Unionists cannot count on sufficient support to win re-election to Cabinet posts in the future.

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By CAMILLA SCOTT
camilla@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Guests don't plan on snagging a piece of wedding cake from mid-air at an open house. Then again, the groom doesn't think he's going to knock the tiered wedding cake off the table either.

Eric Scott, a senior majoring in psychology, did what every groom does with the wedding cake, almost.

Before the piece Scott cut could be shoved into his wife's mouth, the two upper levels of the layered cake flew across the table. Scott caught the top level in his left hand, while the other level went crashing to the floor. Scott apparently pushed too hard on the plastic guard, which the columns holding the upper layers were balanced on.

"Nobody told me about the piece of plastic on top," Scott said.

So much for the wedding cake. How about wedding night mishaps?

Alumna Holly Stowell, who graduated in English Teaching, and her husband, Daniel, a senior majoring in theater education, did not spend their

honeymoon night in a bed and breakfast as they planned.

Instead, they chased her father from the Washington, D.C. Temple to Kentucky in pursuit of her suitcase.

Holly's father confused her suitcase with her mother's. He put it in his car and headed for Kentucky.

The suitcase had the newlyweds' necessities inside. Stowell said her mother-in-law called ahead to see if the police could catch her parents.

Unsuccessful, the newlyweds arrived in Kentucky at 2 a.m. Stowell's family was asleep, oblivious to what happened.

Her embarrassed father paid for a second honeymoon-night at a bed and breakfast. Stowell said.

Marriage proposals also have their share of problems. Benji McMurray, a senior majoring in philosophy, decided to ask his best friend, Suzette, to marry him. Rain

ruined his original, romantic proposal plans, so he resorted to something else.

McMurray put the engagement ring in his pocket before the couple went to the library to study. With his legs propped up on the table, Suzette, suspecting a proposal some time that week, asked what was in his pocket.

"Keys," McMurray quickly responded. The he n, deciding he should take advantage of the moment, he said he suggested they stop studying, drive to the temple and go on a walk.

Despite the temple joggers ruining his private moment, McMurray gave his "little schpiel" showed the ring on Suzette's finger and blurted out, "Will you marry me?"

He said it didn't come out quite right, so he tried again. "Ask me AGAIN," Suzette said. Four times later, he said he finally heard a "yes."

North by Northwest Video Productions, said video is a unique discipline and is not commonly used to replace conventional photography. White said the company covered about 200 weddings last year and anticipates a higher demand for their services this year.

Although relatives and friends will often make home movies of the event, there are options in editing and quality that are unavailable with amateur supplies, equipment and experience.

"Why not have your best friend as your doctor?" White said, when explaining the differences between amateur and professional videography.

According to White, professional video is a more elaborate process and takes a different artistic approach.

"For every one hour spent shooting, there are four hours spent editing," White said. "It is like making a mini

Videography catches emotion

By CHAUNDRA WILSON
chaundra@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

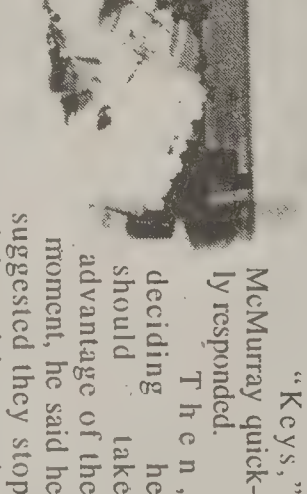
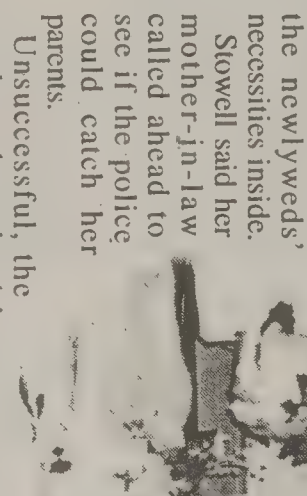
Almost as traditional as the elaborate white dress, is the decorative album filled with photos of the bride, groom and parents captured forever with posed postures and released smiles.

Swiftly becoming part of the wedding day festivities, is the use of professional videography, not only to capture the smile, but the action of the important day.

Steven Daley, owner of Memories Video Production in Orem, said the wedding videography business is a new operation that catches the emotion part of wedding that still photography can not.

"It's still a rising business. It's a new thing still to many people," Daley said. "It's different than pictures because it captures more emotion.

Eric White, business partner of



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DIAMONDS from page 10

"Most people know three things about diamonds. They sparkle a lot, they cost a lot and girls like them a lot. To maximize on beauty, a nicely proportioned stone is essential," said John Bowen, vice president of Sierra West.

Carat weight is the final C. One carat is equal to 1/5 of a gram, and is referred to as having 100 points. Thus, a 50-point diamond weighs

1/2 carat, a 25-point diamond weighs 1/4 carat and so on. A one-carat diamond typically costs about four times more than what a 1/2 carat diamond costs, and about the same goes for subsequent increases in size.

"The average size here in Utah County is 1/2 carat. This is actually far above the national average of 1/4 carat," Hoer said.

"You should shop around, and see what feels best. Check out your options, and find what you really like," he said.



Photo courtesy of Kristin Stewart

From left, Mike Fullwood, Cory Price, Cameron Stewart, Romney Stewart, Rich Smith, John Sanders, Reggie Morgan and Jarold Lundgren goof around at a wedding reception.

PARTY from page 3

is usually the extent of the groomsmen's anxieties, according to Andreoli.

Despite the negative requirements, some fun is involved. "The best part about being a groomsmen is being able to go to the luncheon. Usually, you are not invited unless you are in the line. The food makes it worth it," Andreoli said.

Along with these bridesmaids' duties comes the task of being a personal mentor. "You are the person that the bride goes to to let out stress. You are the person who runs all their little errands," Perry said.

The groomsmen usually have fewer tasks to deal with than the bridesmaids do. Paying for the tax

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DISCOVER WHAT'S WAITING FOR YOU

BY ANDREW ALONCINI
Albrecht@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Anatomy of a girl's best friend

Diamonds are a girl's best friend. Four main characteristics determine the quality and value of a diamond. They are color, clarity, cut and carat — more commonly known as "the 4 C's."

These four characteristics were established by the Gemological Institute of America, and are the standard by which diamonds are graded worldwide.

A diamond's color is graded on an alphabetical scale from D to Z to describe how much or how little color a diamond possesses.

Diamonds considered colorless are the most valuable.

Since diamonds are formed in the Earth under intense heat and pressure, traces of other elements may cause small variances in color. A change in color can reduce a diamond's value.

However, some diamonds come out of the ground in vivid, fancy colors, and these are considered highly prized stones.

Clarity is the measure of a diamond's purity. It's the term that describes the amount of flaws included in the stone or the lack thereof.

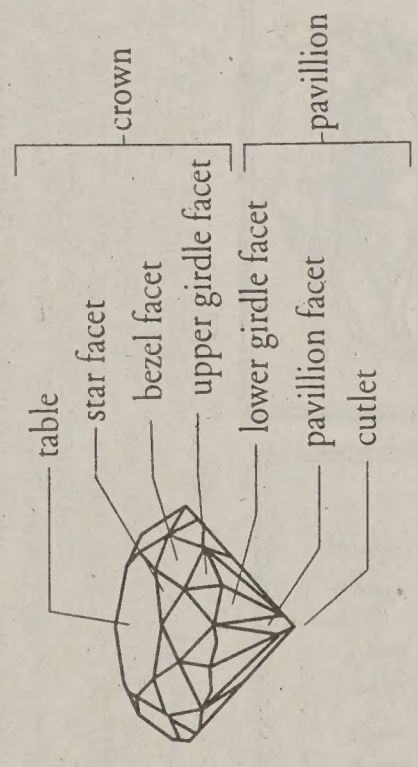
Keep in mind that only 1 percent of all diamonds ever found have no inclusions and can be called flawless.

"Because diamonds are formed naturally in the Earth, they will have natural flaws in them. Whether it's an error in the crystal structure or a little piece of black carbon in it which they call carbon spots," said David Hoer, a master gemsmith and Gemologist, of Dave Har Jewelers.

"These naturally occurring marks may or may not be visible with the naked eye.

The fewer and smaller the inclusions, the more rare and valuable the diamond.

Clarity has double meaning in the diamond world.



graphic by Donald Allison

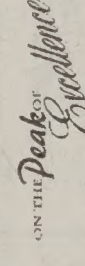


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"These naturally occurring marks may or may not be visible with the naked eye.

The fewer and smaller the inclusions, the more rare and valuable the diamond.

Clarity has double meaning in the diamond world.

Cut first means the shape of the diamond. Round, marquise, emerald, oval, pear and princess are the most common shapes.

Some cuts are more popular than others.

"The round brilliant cut has always been popular and still is," Andrew Blackam of Lossee Jewelers said. "Close behind the round are princess cut stones which are very popular now."

Cut also means the symmetry, polish and facets of the stone. The proportions of the stone determine how much of the diamond's potential fire and beauty may be released.

A poorly cut diamond can be worth less than half the value of a well-made stone.

DIAMONDS page 11

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BY CARRIE LUNDGREN
Lundgren@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Brides and grooms sometimes agonize over the question — who will be in our line?

Kristin Stewart, 21, a senior from Scottsdale, Ariz., majoring in therapeutic recreation, said the decision wasn't tough for her.

"My sisters were easy choices. I then included one of my closest friends," she said.

Some brides and grooms want to include friends or family who can't physically make it to the wedding or the reception.

As Stewart discovered, creativity and imagination can conquer that problem.

Stewart got married while her sister was serving a mission.

"My sister was always going to be my maid of honor. Even though she was on her mission, she still had to be there, somehow," Stewart said.

Her sister was the maid of honor via a cardboard life-size stand-in picture.

For Tim Andreoli, 24, a junior from Upland, Calif., majoring in business management, choosing groomsmen was a simple task.

"I was a groomsman at five of my friends' weddings, so I felt obligated to ask all five of them to be in my line. I would have asked them any way though," Andreoli said.

After the decisions are made, the fun, or the stress, begins for these relatives and friends who are chosen to be in the line.

"I have been a bridesmaid four times, and two of those times I was the maid of honor. Usually, I've been in charge of finding, making or buying the dress," said Stephanie Perry, 22, a statistics graduate student from Corona, Calif.

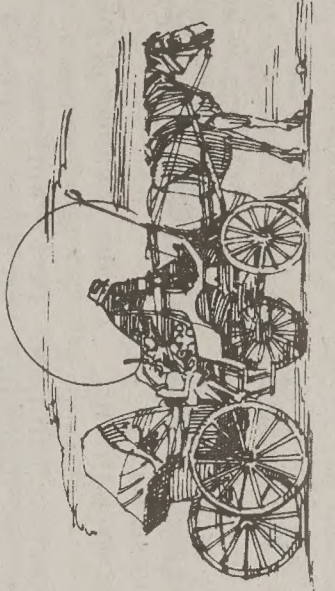
The search for finding the perfect dress is a familiar occurrence for the soon-to-be sixth-time bridesmaid, Heidi Reed, 23, a junior from Sierra



A cardboard life-size picture works as a stand-in for those who cannot make it to the wedding.

PARTY page 11

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By MATTHEW PARRY
parry@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

human development. "Each family did as much as they could."

Of all the LDS weddings that Woodger coordinated, she felt that 65 percent did a traditional wedding with a formal line.

"I'd say about 50 percent of non-LDS weddings used traditional etiquette, but don't do a formal line," Woodger said.

"They go out to have a good time and party."

Another 5 percent do bizarre things like buy an orange dress for a Halloween wedding or make invitations with frogs saying "Leap on over to our reception," Woodger said.

"We've done two Star Wars weddings. It had gurgling punch and Star Wars cardboard cut-outs," Woodger said.

Most people don't want to break the time-honored tradition of having the reception after the wedding ceremony, said Karen Barkdull, a wedding consultant for I Do... Weddings.

"On a few occasions, people do have the reception first, but that is really rare," Barkdull said.

Some students knew people who did the reception before the ceremony.

"My cousin had the reception earlier and they dressed up in the dress and tux like a normal reception," Longhurst said.

Another student, McKay Bradford, a senior from Smithfield, Ut., majoring in computer engineering, knew a couple who had their reception the night before.

Is the traditional wedding a thing of the past?

"Society is getting more lax and thus weddings have also gotten lax," Woodger said.

Other BYU students disregard traditional etiquette.

"We were pretty non-traditional," said Danielle Bradford, a senior from Charleston, Ill., majoring in

Who's more the fool, the fool or the fool who follows him?"
 -Obi-Wan Kenobi, Star Wars: A New Hope

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Students survive cancelled weddings

By RACHEL DAHNEKE
rahel@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Wedding invitations are in the mail, dresses are purchased, flowers ordered, tuxedos on layaway and the checkbook is empty, but instead of being jilted at the altar, the engagement is broken off.

"At least 25 percent of all formal engagements are broken off," said Brent Barlow, professor of marriage and family development.

Crystal Barnes, 20, a sophomore from Cedar town, Ga., majoring in English, broke up with her fiancé three weeks into their engagement.

Barnes knew her husband-to-be for six months, and she dated him for six days.

"It was painful, but I knew that breaking it off would be less painful. It would be short term rather than the rest of my life."

Barnes said next time she is going to date at least six to eight months and gives the same advice to others.

"Make sure you know the guy well enough to marry him," she said.

Krissy Polson, 26, a member of the BYU comedy group The Garrens, also called off her engagement.

"I met him in June, and it was the classic BYU thing. He was my home teacher," she said.

Despite the pain, Polson said she learned to trust in the Lord.

"It was a difficult time, but I trusted the Lord that A—there would be somebody else and B—it was the right thing," she said.

In the United States, 11 percent of brides are younger than 20 years old, according to a survey by Alternatives to Marriage Project.

In the same survey, it showed 22 percent of Utah brides are under 20.

Magazines help with wedding plans

By ANDREA LAYCOCK
ahdrea@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Customers are flocking to magazine racks to buy the latest issues of bridal magazines, according to Tanya Roundy, the periodical specialist at Border's Bookstore.

Roundy said the most popular bridal magazines are Bride's Magazine and Modern Bride. She said they sell out every month because people are beginning to plan their spring weddings.

Bridal magazines can be a good source for planning weddings according to BYU students.

"When I first got engaged I used bridal magazines to help me look for dresses, but now I'm trying to get ideas for veils and flowers," said Carlie Brown, a senior from West Va., majoring in veterinary medicine.

Dresses, jewelry, china and invitations are typically featured in the magazines.

Despite the monogamous subject areas, bridal magazines continue to do well year after year.

According to ambride.com, more than 8 million couples buy bridal magazines a year, and on average, each couple buys six issues of their favorite bridal magazine.

Over 2.4 million couples get married every year in the United States, necessitating a continuous supply of current bridal information, according to the same Web site.

Although nationally circulated bridal magazines are the most popular, local bridal guides can be just as helpful for planning a wedding.

"Local bridal magazines are especially good for finding local services, like caterers, that you need for your wedding," said Anne Lindsay, 20, a junior from Sandy, majoring in English teaching.

Bridal magazines also show many different styles of wedding dresses. But, some BYU girls feel that very few, if any, dresses in these magazines are appropriate for temple ceremonies.

"I get discouraged when I look in wedding magazines because I don't see any dresses that I could wear to the temple," said Marlene Hanson, 20, a junior from Texas, majoring in humanities.

Future brides are not the only ones who thumb through bridal magazines for good ideas, or the latest trends.



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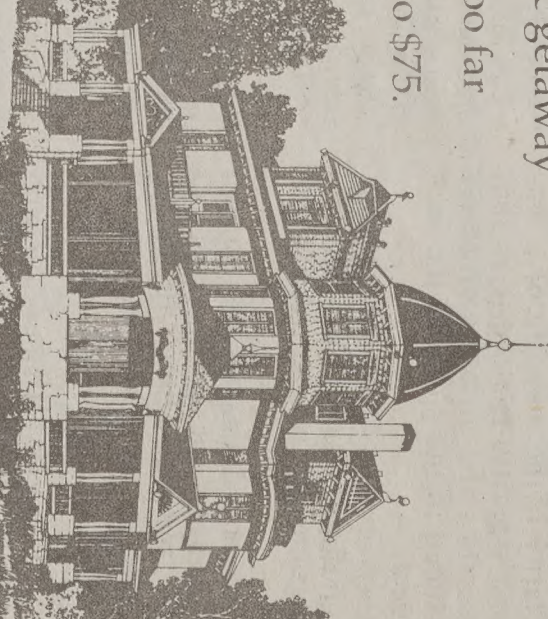
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BY EMILY CANNON
Emily@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

A co-ed bridal shower. A surprise shower. A shower without guests. A Web site, blushingbride.com, offers suggestions about these and other possibilities about these and themes and refreshments.

"Anyone who has ever attended several showers knows that these occasions can be rather bland and boring, if little is planned beyond the 'oohing' and 'aahing' as each gift is opened," said MystikSprinkle, an online provider of shower game packages.

Before the planning begins, the hostess needs to consult with the bride.

The bride may have preferences on the activities and invitation list.

Once those things are discussed, creativity is the key for a shower to be remembered.

Anika Criddle, 21, a junior from

Valley Stream, N.Y., majoring in family history, shared the story of her one-of-a-kind bridal shower in October.

"The actual event was not the surprise, but the magnitude of it was," Criddle said.

Criddle's shower was hosted at the Wrapsody by one of her friends. Nearly 100 people arrived for the party where they watched video clips of the couple and danced.

"The strobe light turned on and smoke and people started to fill the dance floor. Then the break-dancers arrived. I could feel my heart pounding to the music and see people's white shirts glowing in the ultra-violet light," Criddle said.

Chantel Gunther of American Fork planned a game that expanded on candygrams, where candy is used to replace words in part of a message.

Guests split into two groups and then had to use candy to write a story about the honored couple.

What would Gunther have done differently?

"I would have sent invitations out earlier," she said.

Jennifer Elton, 21, from Springville, Utah County, has hosted several showers in the past year.

"If you are having a big shower with a lot of people, I think an open house is the best way to go," she said.

"People can drop by to bring a gift and have refreshments. When they are done visiting, they feel free to go."

Since guests may become bored while the gifts are being opened, www.UltimateShower.com recommends several games, such as Bridal Bingo and The Honeymoon Night.

Elton used Bridal Bingo at a shower last month.

On a paper with "bride" written across the top, guests filled in their own boxes with gifts they thought would be opened.

To keep guests playing, Elton made blackout, not bingo, the goal.

Experts advise pre-marital counseling

BY TIFFANY GEE
Tiffany@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

A marriage goes beyond the day filled with photos, wedding cake and rice throwing. Whether it's through pre-marital counseling, compatibility tests or books, some type of education before marriage is advised by experts in the field.

Despite the connotations that might be associated with professional counseling, the whole idea of pre-marital counseling is to give information to the couple about themselves, said Robert Stahmann, a professor of marriage and family therapy and author of "Premarital and Marital Counseling."

"Counseling can help a couple make sure they look at all the areas they hadn't thought about," Stahmann said.

"Most couples don't talk about these things beforehand. They're so romantically in love they lose the ability to think more objectively," said Jeff Larson, director of marriage

and family therapy and author of "Should We Stay Together?" Counseling can never be to a couple's detriment unless they're trying to hide something, Larson said.

"I've been a marriage counselor for 20 years, and I would say 65 percent of the married couples in trouble had problems before they were married. A lot of marital problems come up in the premarital stages," Larson said.

Sometimes, couples come in who really have questions about their relationship, and they learn for themselves that it wouldn't work out, Stahmann said.

"Some of the couples have broken up from counseling, but what's easier — breaking up before the marriage or after?" Larson said.

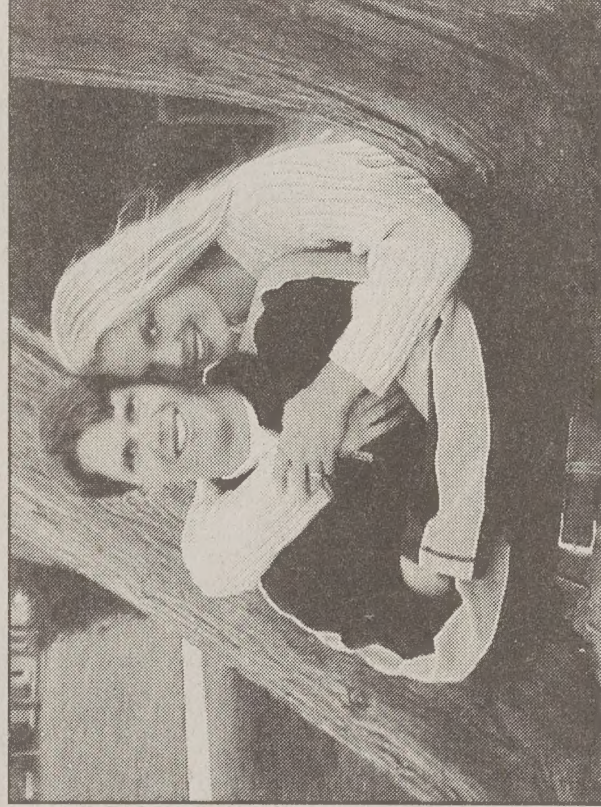
Larson suggests that couples need to seek education. They need to educate themselves and then decide whether they need pre-marital counseling.

BYU offers pre-marital education through marriage preparation classes, pre-marital groups at the BYU Comprehensive Clinic and a free compatibility test called RELATE.

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Money matters matter

By KIMBERLY DEMUCHA
demucha@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

For newlyweds, money matters should be a major concern.

"Because money is one of the leading causes of divorce, your marriage's success could be determined by the financial rules and habits that you and your spouse establish," Ric Edelman, financial advisor and best-selling author, said.

"Be in control of your finances," said Warren Blosil, bishop of the BYU 142nd Ward.

He said control is the most important piece of advice he could give a newlywed couple.

Along with marriage, there are a lot of legal and financial responsibilities that need to be considered, discussed and resolved.

"First you need to discuss all the facts. As unromantic as it sounds, now is the time for a session of truth and consequences," the Metro Saint Louis Bride's Guide said.

According to the guide, newlyweds or even engaged couples should drag out all the facts, positive and negative. This is a good time to set realistic goals and establish a budget.

The WeddingChannel.com addresses the issue of money matters by giving readers the top 10 financial considerations for newlyweds.

On that list, the No. 1 recommendation is from the beginning of marriage couples should be saving 15 percent to 20 percent of their income.

ease with ring ceremony

By BRINTON WILKINS
Brinton@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Students at BYU who have non-member relatives can do several things to help their families feel more comfortable at their wedding and reception.

Ring ceremonies help the non-LDS family members feel more involved in the wedding, said Donald Dixon, bishop of the Edgemont 15th ward.

Morgan Hanners, 26, a senior from Owings, Md., majoring in linguistics, is the only member of the church on his side of the family.

He said his parents were upset, at first, that they couldn't attend his wedding.

"That was very, very disappointing for them, and it was hard for me to not have them nearby," he said.

Hanners and his wife, Melody, had considered having a civil ceremony after the temple ceremony. But, he said they decided it would cheapen the temple experience.

Instead, they held a ring ceremony in the church where their reception was going to be, he said.

"Since it's not really an ordinance, or even a cultural type of thing, ... it was a little bit difficult," Hanners said.

"We just explained the nature of marriage, talked about the temple marriage we had just experienced and what the rings symbolize, and then we exchanged rings. And that's it."

According to Hanners, the ring exchange helped his parents. In their religion, unlike his, the ring ceremony is the most important part of the wedding, he said.

"They thought it was beautiful," Hanners said. "It may not be important to us in our church, but it's important to our families and those we can't be in the temple with."

ease with ring ceremony

Such ring ceremonies, while not common in LDS culture, are not forbidden. However, they must be conducted correctly, said William Bancroft, president of the Provo Edgemont Stake.

"They can exchange rings after the temple ceremony, and they can't take any vows," Bancroft said.

Being married in the temple is the highest form of marriage Bancroft said. The vows have already been made, and making additional vows would be a mockery of the temple ceremony, he said.

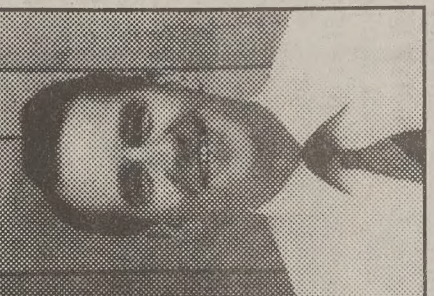
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By SARA BRUECK
Brueck@univnet.utah.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

While wedding bells typically ring louder during the summer and during Christmas break, some students decide to marry during the semester instead of waiting for a vacation to exchange vows.

Take the wedding of Dustin and Jessica Moyes for example. Last March, Dustin attended his Thursday classes as usual. He drove all night that night, got married on Saturday, and returned to school in the middle of the next week. In between, he wrote a 17-page paper.

Dustin, 22, a senior from Murtaugh, Idaho, majoring in sociology and his wife, Jessica, 22, a senior from Davisville, Calif., majoring in history, chose to brave the difficulties of getting married in the middle of a semester rather than having an extended engagement. For them, getting married mid-semester was a challenge, but knowing it was the right thing made all it worth the worries.

"The course of action that we chose is only recommended to those who have an assurance from Heavenly Father that he supports the decision ... if Heavenly Father says yes, go forward with faith," Dustin said.

Even with assurance of doing the right thing, however, Dustin and Jessica faced all of the traditional obstacles of a mid-semester marriage and then some not-so-traditional ones. There were the usual hassles of selling contracts, finding temporary housing, trying to find an apartment they could rent on a month-to-month basis and arranging the wedding around school.

But what added to the stress of the process, were the unforeseen trials that occurred. Dustin's family got stranded at the airport in Reno, Nev., because of overlooked flights. As a result, the wedding had to be moved back a few hours so everyone could make it.



Helen Stevens and Jim Nelson portray the studying, stress, romance and joy of a mid-semester wedding.

Even so, Dustin's father arrived only 10 minutes before the ceremony. To finish things off, it hailed on their wedding day.

Not all marriages during the semester are high-stress though. For Corey Wride, 23, a senior from Salt Lake City, majoring in computer science and his wife, Tiffanie, 23, a senior from Salt Lake City majoring in family history, things went a little more smoothly.

"My parents weren't too thrilled about [us getting married in the middle of the semester], but that was about it," Corey said. "I don't think it was a big deal," he said. "I'd been expecting the worst and it didn't happen."

Tiffanie, who only had five credits the semester she got married, agreed. "I think it would have been more stressful if I had more credits," she said.

The Wrides skipped a honeymoon but spent the weekend together before they headed back to school.

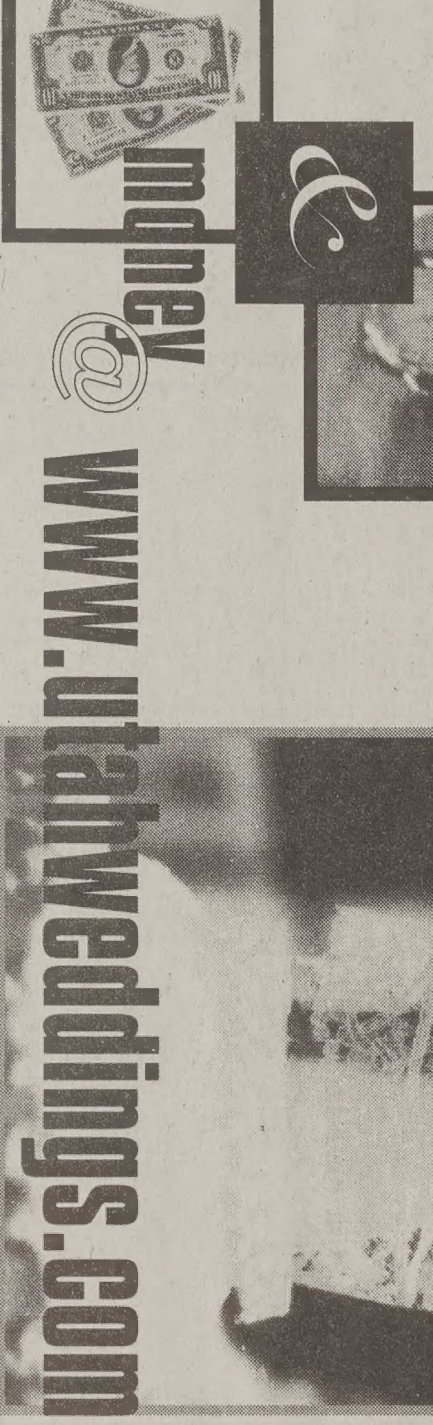
Imitation: Hire a graphic design student instead of have them done professionally.
Cake: replace with a short cake or other dessert.
Wedding dress: Wear a full skirt from new silk topped with a less formal cashmere sweater or argyle blouse.
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Money makes best gift

By JOHN GAMBEE
gamb@univnet.utah.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Give money at wedding receptions, is the advice BYU students give.

"I know it's informal, but if I went to a reception today, I'd just write them a check," said junior Brian Payne, 25, a finance major from Cody, Wyo. "If not cash, nothing too weird."

Common items like simple silverware, Tupperware, glasses and mixers are great, Payne said.

However, Payne said that some common items were given excessively. "We got a lot of casserole dishes. We also got three bread makers," said Payne, who married Ali Swenson of Anchorage, Alaska, on April 8, 1998.

"You don't really need a lot of casserole dishes for two people," he said. "He said there isn't anything wrong with the gifts but avoid lower quality items."

"It's better to buy one small high

For many brides and grooms, the night before the "big day" is a night to relax and ponder upon the importance of the commitment they are about to make.

But seriously, who really ever sleeps that night anyway? "I didn't sleep, that's for sure," said Mike Brailford, a junior from Blue Springs, Mo., majoring in computer science.

Some brides, like Mirjam Kirkham, were not as lucky as those who relaxed were.

"I was ill, so my now-husband gave me a blessing, and I was all better for our wedding day," said Kirkham from Germany, who is majoring in public relations.

Before I tell my story, you must understand that I have always been somewhat "hassle prone."

The night before I got married, my mom got lost for two hours in Salt Lake City, due to the construction on Main Street. Our hotel was just on the other side of the construction.

Later on that evening, as we went to watch the Mormon Tabernacle Choir Christmas rehearsal, we randomly sat next to her. Luckily we had said our prayers.

As if that wasn't enough, my sisters

got stranded on Temple Square and ended up walking six blocks, in the dark in a totally unfamiliar place, to find us and help set up for the reception.

In the mean time, their dates, a husband and a boyfriend, grew tired of watching the rehearsal (they're both non-members). So, they went off in search of food.

When we returned to the hotel, the men were no where to be found.

My small-town sisters were sure the "big city" had let loose its gangster mobs and swallowed them whole.

My sisters had never been to Salt Lake City before or any city over a hundred thousand people for that matter.

The tension increased further when my sister's boyfriend, who was supposedly sick, threw a fit over the sleeping arrangements.

There were three beds and just enough unmarried girls to fit in them. It only made sense that he should sleep on the floor.

He and my sister didn't quite see our logic. After tears and negotiations, everything was all better.

Amidst the chaos, my close friend

variously made cookies, cut my fiancée's hair and pretended not to notice my somewhat dysfunctional family.

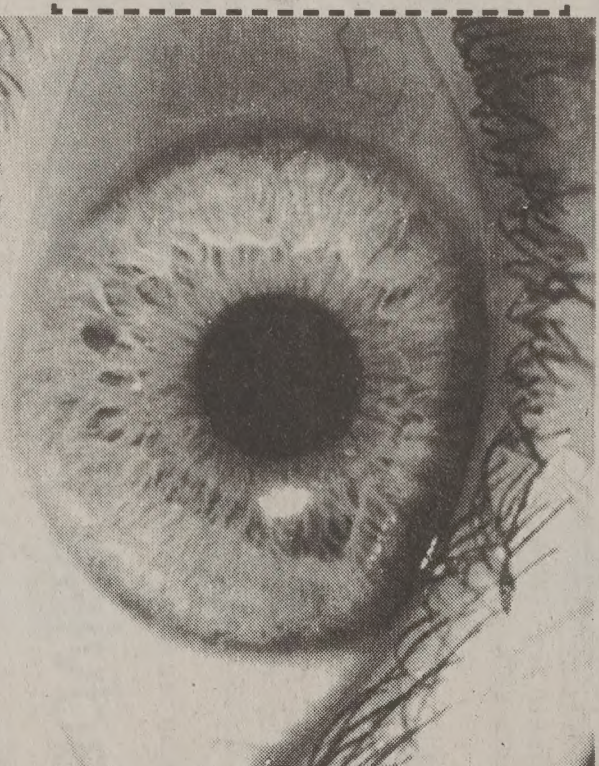
The fact that my new last name is Hassell, I have long decided, is no coincidence.

By two o'clock in the morning, I found myself praying the next day would be better.

It ended up being the happiest day of my life — even though my mom did get lost in Salt Lake on her way to the luncheon, my sister almost got

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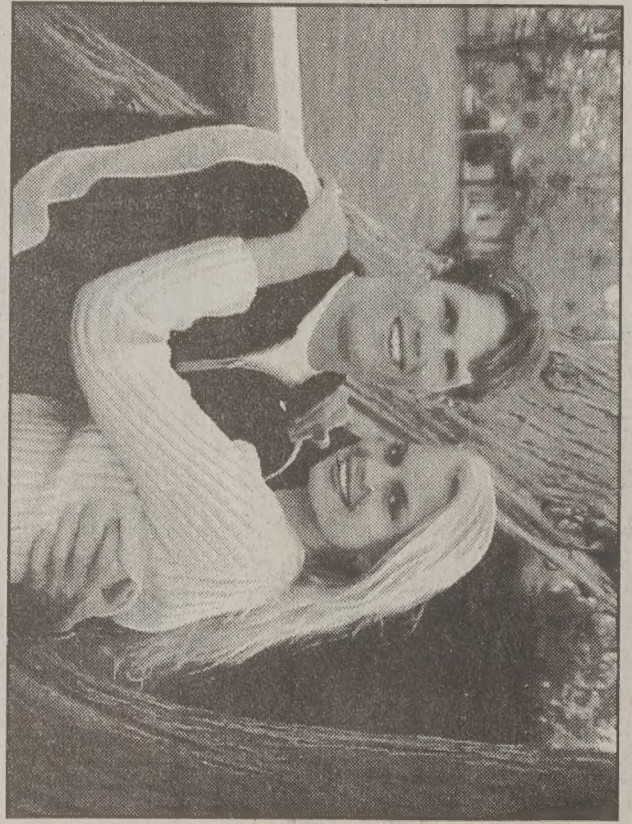


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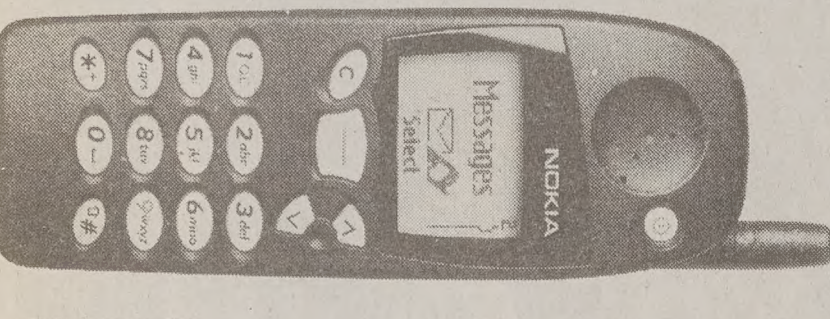
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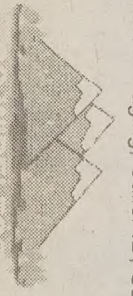
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